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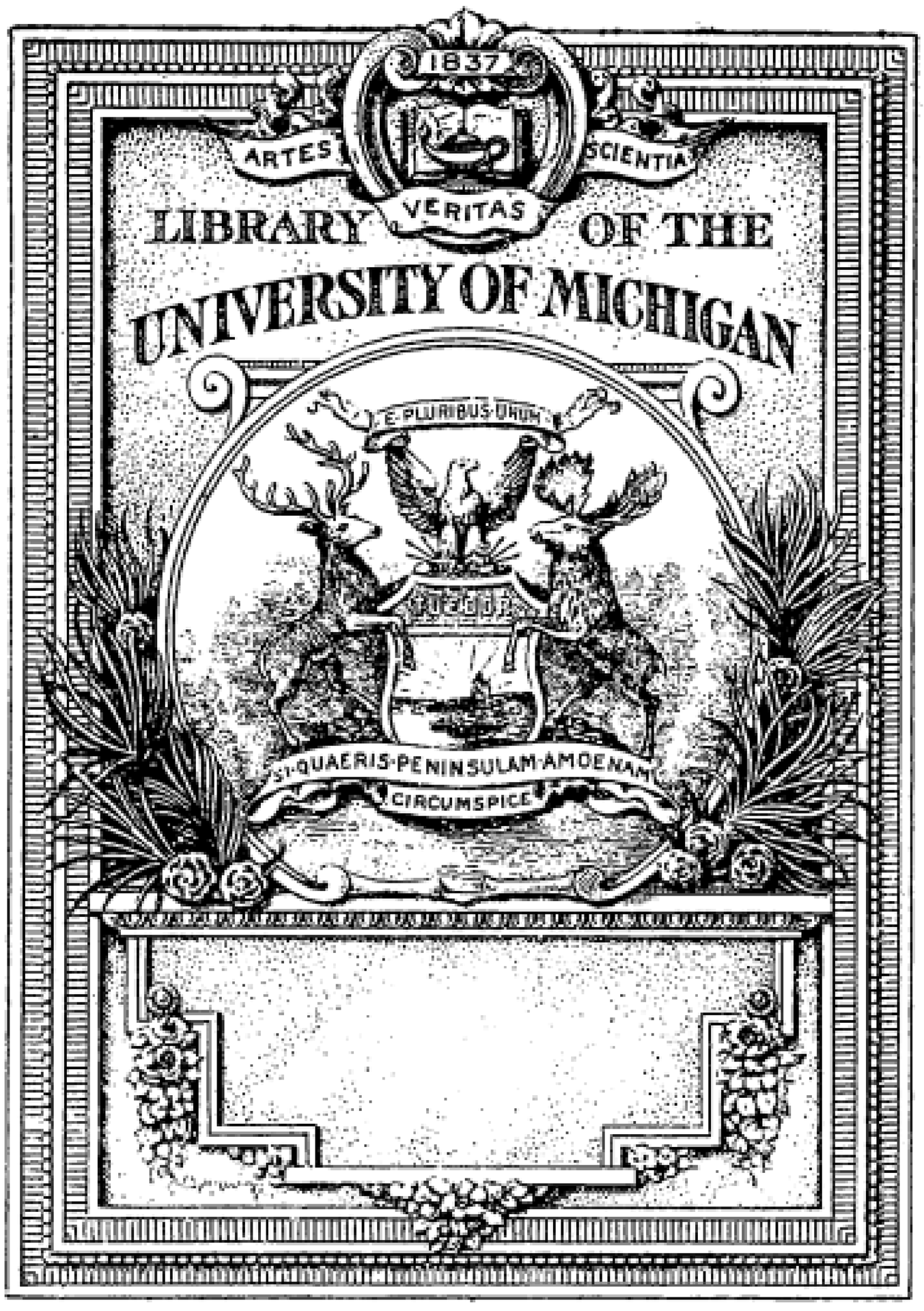

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PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS

ON

SOME OF THE CHIEF

HOMŒOPATHIC REMEDIES.

96639

BY DR. FRANZ HARTMANN.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN, WITH NOTES,

BY A. HOWARD OKIE, M.D.,

TRANSLATOR OF HARTMANN'S REMEDIES, PART I., RUOFF'S REPERTORY, ETC., ETC.

Second and last Series.

CONTAINING BELLADONNA, NUX VOMICA, ETC.

NEW-YORK:

WM. RADDE, 322, BROADWAY.

LONDON:

H. BAILLIERE, 219 REGENT-STREET.

1846.

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DEDICATION.

TO

THE HON. DIXON H. LEWIS,

Senator, U. S.

SIR: The interest which you have manifested in medical science, and more particularly in the cause of the much derided but natural system of Hahnemann, leads me to trust that the dedication of this work will not be wholly unacceptable to you; and the more so when I assure you, that in offering it, I am actuated alone by sincere respect for the candour and judgment with which you have investigated the claims of Homœopathy.

A. H. OKIE.

Providence, Jan. 29, 1846.

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PREFACE

TO THE AMERICAN EDITION.

THE great obstacle to the progress of Homœopathy in this country, is that presented by a too rapid growth. Physicians of the old school in popular parlance, take it up as a mere speculation, and use it as they would a "good cow to obtain milk." The science makes no progress in their hands, for they know not what they are dealing with. The mere fact of administering drugs prepared according to the directions of Hahnemann, and known under the too general title of Homœopathic medicines, is by no means a proof that the practitioner really gives Homœopathic medicines, or that he treats his patients Homœopathically. The mere administration of these medicines without a knowledge of the principle upon which Homœopathy is founded, and of the effects of remedies upon the healthy, sufficient to enable the Physician to give a remedy with certainty upon this principle, are things wide as the poles asunder. A

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great difficulty with American Physicians unacquainted with German, has been the impossibility of obtaining works of a practical nature in the English language. Hartmann's Remedies is a work eminently calculated to supply this want, and give the Physician a hint as to the clinical application of remedies upon the principle *similia similibus*. Its author thoroughly understands his subject, and gives his own opinions deduced from practice. Any one who will carefully follow the mode Dr. Hartmann follows in his prescriptions, and will apply the same to a dozen or twenty of the chief remedies of the Homœopathic materia medica, will, after a careful analysis of these, soon be enabled to increase his knowledge so as to embrace all of the chief remedies in use.

The day is not far distant when our materia medica founded on the drug symptoms induced in the healthy subject, and the morbid changes thus produced, will be placed side by side with pathological phenomena—when we shall not be subjected to a necessarily defective symptomatology bequeathed us by Hahnemann, and which was in his time a great improvement over the blundering, guess work of the Pathological doctrines of his day; but which now must yield to the labours of the

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modern Pathological anatomist, whose efforts will be greatly aided by those of the Homœopathist to detect the changes produced in the organism by the administration of drugs, and the application of the similar drug disease thus discovered to the cure of morbid changes in the organism. The proof sheets of this work have been revised under unavoidable disadvantages, and some typographical errors have crept in. I cannot conclude without stating the great obligation I am under to Mr. Charles G. McKnight, student of Homœopathy in my office, for the copious index he has furnished.

A. H. Okie.

Benefit-street, Providence, R. I.

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HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINE.

WM. RADDE, No. 322 Broadway, New-York, General Agent for the Central Homœopathic Pharmacy at Leipsic, for the United States, respectfully informs the Homœopathic Physicians and the friends of the system, that he has always on hand a good assortment of HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES, in complete sets or by single vials, in Tinctures, Dilutions, and Triturations. Also, Pocket Cases of Medicines; Physicians' and Family Medicine Chests, to Laurie's Domestic (72 remedies,) Epp's (54 remedies,) Hering's (58 remedies.) Small Pocket Cases at $3, with Family Guide and 27 remedies. Cases containing 415 vials with Tinctures and Triturations for Physicians; Cases with 176 vials of Tinctures and Triturations to Jahr's Manual in 2 vols. Pocket Cases with 60 vials of Tinctures and Triturations. Cases from 200 to 400 vials with low and high dilutions of medicated pellets. Cases from 50—80 vials of low and high dilutions, etc., etc. Refined Sugar of Milk, pure Globules, etc.; as well as Books, Pamphlets, and Standard Works on the System, in the English, French, and German languages.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC EXAMINER, 4th vol., (new series,) was issued on the 15th day of August, 1845, and thereafter on the first of each month. The Journal will hereafter be edited by Drs. Gray and Hempel, Wm. Radde, publisher and proprietor. $5 a year in advance, or 50 cents on delivery for each number.—Seven numbers are published.

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BELLADONNA.

THIS powerful remedy, which is applicable homœopathically in very many morbid affections of grave character, and is exhibited with brilliant effects, occupies a prominent place among the polycrest remedies. It is said to possess much more powerful properties when growing wild than when cultivated in the garden. Its botanical character, and the mode of preparing it for homœopathic use, I have accurately specified in my Pharmacopœia.* When this remedy has been exhibited, the patient should abstain from the use of *coffee* and *wine*, unless we wish to interfere with its effects antidotally. *Acids* are likewise pernicious, as they produce too great an aggravation of the symptoms which *belladonna* is intended to remove. In addition to the antidotes mentioned by Hahnemann, in his Materia Medica, *mercurius sol.* deserves attention, particularly in *chronic sequelæ* remaining after the use of *belladonna*. We may likewise make use of slight shocks of electricity in such cases, (when there is paralysis of particular limbs, amaurosis, &c.,) conjoined with the proper curative. As improvement occurs, we should diminish their in-

* Homœopathic Pharmacopœia, by Dr. Hartmann, Leipsic. See also Jahr's New Homœopathic Pharmacopœia and Posology, by Dr. Kitchen, Philadelphia, 1842.

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tensity, and administer them less frequently. This remedy is not only adapted to very many morbid affections of adults, but particularly to diseases of children, which are often so constituted that we may precede it by a small dose of *chamomilla*, or *aconite*, in some inflammatory affections.

In the treatment of disease in general, much depends upon exhibiting remedies in the proper order, and in not letting them follow each other heterogeneously: in the exhibition of *belladonna*, this deserves particular attention, if we desire a fortunate result.

This is also the case with the *antipsoric* remedies where no contra indication exists: we should be careful, however, not to disturb, prematurely, the action of an antipsoric by exhibiting this remedy, as this injury cannot be repaired by the exhibition of a second antipsoric. With *graphit.*, *phosphor.*, *calc. carb.*, *lycopod.*, *carb. veg.*, I have experienced that *belladonna* may be exhibited as an intercurrent remedy, after their effects have been exhausted in the so-termed gouty cephalalgia, in erysipelatous inflammations, &c. I cannot relinquish the idea that this curative is capable of annihilating chronic cachexies, even where they depend upon latent psora. My earlier experience originated this opinion, and this conviction becomes the more settled as I subject my former experience to repeated tests, and compare this with Hahnemann's observations in chronic diseases. I have cured chronic affections with this remedy, which evidently depended upon repelled eruptions, and I have never seen them recur, even in pa-

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tients whom I had a constant opportunity of observing. Why should not a remedy, whose effects continue for several weeks, be capable of proving curative in chronic diseases? Any one at all acquainted with homœopathy is familiar with the curative power of this remedy in exanthematous and erysipelatous affections. To whom is the evident effect of this remedy in ulcers of the leg and vesiculous cutaneous eruptions, and some varieties of tinea capitis, unknown? Have not many homœopathists treated the sequelæ of scarlatina, purpura miliaris, and of morbilli with *belladonna?* Although I do not wish to stamp this remedy as an anti-psoric without further trials, we still cannot overlook its curative power in chronic affections, at least when properly exhibited as an intercurrent remedy. It is certainly as such not inferior to *nux vomica, pulsatilla, coffea*, &c. There are several other remedies which, according to my experience, are allied to the antipsorics, viz: *dulcamara, staphysagria, mezereum, asafœtida, arsenic, sarsaparilla.*

The longer or shorter duration of its effects depends upon the size of the dose—it is therefore applicable in the most acute as well as in chronic affections. The continuation or cessation of improvement decides whether a new remedy is or is not required. In acute diseases, we may give another remedy on the third or fourth dose; while in chronic forms of disease, if no urgent symptoms demand a new remedy, we may let its effects continue from two to three weeks.

Allopathic writers on materia medica recommend

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belladonna in mania and melancholia, epilepsy, chorea, apoplexy, hydrophobia, scirrhus and cancer: in particular aberrations of the nervous system, and in paralysis, in the most inveterate cardialgia, in hooping-cough, jaundice, dropsy, hypochondriasis, intermittent fever, rheumatism, gout, scorbutic ulcers and herpes. Homœopathists likewise exhibit it in several of these affections, with this difference, however, that they make use of it in the tincture, which is the most powerful preparation of this plant, (not in the pulverized form, which is always very uncertain, as from drying and being kept a long time a great part of its medical virtue is lost.) The dose, homœopathically, is far less than that of the allopathists. Homœopathy likewise considers more especially the general forms of disease in which it is applicable before administering this very powerful medicament.

Morning is the most appropriate time to administer this remedy, as it usually developes its full power after dinner, afternoons, evenings and in the night, on which account, if it is exhibited in the evening, (particularly in acute diseases,) it excites considerable unnecessary exacerbation at this time; it is this property which renders it so frequently applicable in diseases which recur periodically.

Belladonna is likewise applicable where painful complaints are aggravated by motion. The effects of this remedy are readily disturbed by a raw atmosphere; generally by taking cold. *Belladonna* is a remedy which aids the formation of pus, and acts directly upon the

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lymphatic system, this is corroborated by numerous experiences of homœopathists, it ranks in this particular with mercury. It is to be particularly recommended in ulcers in which suppuration ceases, and where stinging, burning, dissevering pains are excited. It has likewise the peculiarity to repeat its primary effects, or rather to excite a return of the disease on the third or fourth day, even when it has produced improvement in the first days after its application. This should not lead the homœopathic physician to administer another remedy immediately, as this aggravation of the disease usually soon disappears spontaneously. But on account of this relapse it must, in important cases, be accurately selected, if we will have it prove efficient. I have frequently cured diseases with this substance which depended upon violent mental emotions, when the body was heated, followed by evident cold.

Sad, indifferent tone of mind, where the other morbid symptoms indicate it, is one of the chief criteria for its application both in acute and chronic diseases.

Thus much is general. I now proceed to speak of its therapeutic application more in detail.

Febrile Affections. *Belladonna* acts more powerfully than any other substance on the nerves, and particularly on those of the cerebrum, and it therefore stands in close connection with the nervous system, particularly to the higher nervous system, to the organs of sense and the sensorium. Notwithstanding this, its effects upon the ganglionic system and particular nervous branches, is by no means doubtful. It elicits very im-

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portant symptoms in the nervous plexus of the abdomen, and likewise stands in connection with other systems, to which is to be ascribed its influence on the vascular system, secretory organs, and on the organs of reproduction generally.

Before proceeding further, I shall say a few words with regard to the ideas of Dr. Wednt, of Breslau, on *belladonna*, which he casually mentions in a treatise "On the *Use of Datura Stramonium*,"* and which are just the reverse of those I have just offered: he says, "with *belladonna* we see the most decided effect on the ganglionic system: we see the larger nervous branches primarily affected by it, and first subsequently does the central organ suffer. If *belladonna* exercises a decided influence upon the irritability, still, as a result of its influence, reaction is evidently exalted, and febrile manifestations are often excited." That *belladonna* produces febrile phenomena, is undoubtedly true, as is known to any one at all acquainted with the true effects of this remedy upon the healthy human body. But that the effects of *belladonna* upon the sensorium is subsequent to its action on the ganglionic nervous system, depends either upon a mistake on the part of the observer, or it is a theoretical conclusion which is not sustained by experience. If I have deceived myself in particular observations with regard to this remedy, this does not at all depend upon the conjecture that *belladonna* excites the sensorium primarily. This is an experimental truth, of which any one may readily convince himself, who will

* Rust's Magazine. Vol. xxiv. Part II. 1827.

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experiment with *belladonna* on his own person. The vertigo, the cerebral confusion, the sense of intoxication, these precursors of far more important changes in the cerebral nervous system, generally appear in most experimenters within a few minutes after taking not too large a dose of this remedy: this is likewise the case with the sudden change of contraction and dilatation of the pupil, after which visual obscuration and complete paralysis of the optic nerve succeeds, in which variable symptom we, at the same time, plainly recognise the struggle of the recuperative powers of nature to recover the loss of balance brought about by the unnatural exaltation of the irritability of the affected organ produced by the *belladonna*.

The production of weakness of memory, and even its complete loss, is likewise one of the primary effects of the *belladonna*, and is manifested earlier than the sufferings which depend upon the affection of the ganglionic system. If one wishes to experience these true effects of this remedy, it is, of course, essential that a good and powerful preparation should be made use of, and the dose regulated according to the constitution of the subject, and its effects should not be disturbed by the use of any other medicinal substance at the same time. And, according to my views, these are precisely the mistakes which allopathists commit in their experiments with drugs, and, deceived by these, they deduce false conclusions, and others adduce uncertain conjectures not based upon pure experience.

. *Belladonna* is not invariably adapted to any class of

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febrile affections; there are none, however, to which it may not be adapted. Under certain circumstances, a fever with the character of *synocha*, or *synochus*, as well as a *febris typhosa*, may be removed by it. As a simple fever, without complication, it is best adapted to typhus. In diseases where the fever is not the chief indication, but merely constitutes a concomitant symptom, where, for instance, an inflammation or cutaneous eruption is the criterion for the exhibition of this or that remedy, and points to the application of *belladonna*, it is not uncommon that the fever therewith connected bears the character of *synocha*, or *synochus*, without offering any contra indication to its use. In general *synochus*, according to the principles of homœopathy, never determines what remedy is applicable, as it is in very rare cases that this presents itself as an uncomplicated form of fever. It is usually united with other prominent symptoms which are characteristic for the appropriate remedy, which then is also always indicated by the accompanying febrile form, because this latter usually depends upon the chief complaint.

As already mentioned, *belladonna* is best adapted to some varieties of *nervous fever* which appear *sporadically:* it is impossible to decide beforehand what remedy is best adapted to these fevers when they appear epidemically, as every epidemic is differently constituted. If we survey the symptoms of *belladonna* accurately, we find throughout that increased irritability and hypersensibility predominates over deficient, or at least diminished, irritability; if we depended on this alone, without

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consulting experience, we would suppose that its application would be confined to *febris nervosa versatilis*. It is to conclusions like this that those who are learned in the closet arrive, the practitioner places implicit faith in their decisions, and is thereby frequently subjected to many sad disappointments, which then serve to render him mistrustful of the particular medicament recommended. The homœopathists cannot be thus deceived, as they accurately comprehend the true effects of medical agents, and oppose them to the collective symptoms of disease. By this means we discover the beneficial influence of *belladonna* in some varieties of *febris nervosa stupida*. It is impossible to convey to a beginner the settled indications which call for the exhibition of *belladonna* in *febris nervosa*. I am myself always governed by the face, which, to me, always exhibits something characteristic when *belladonna* is indicated, and I am therefore never at a loss. I do not know whether it is as certain a guide to other practitioners; this characteristic is not so readily described as *felt* when looking on the patient. The eye and look of the patient are in these cases, as in many others, particularly true indications: a reflex of the internal affection, which we are able to make use of only after repeated experiences; this reflex is most apparent where the nervous system in general, and particularly the cerebral system, is affected, also even when an inflammatory affection of the latter is therewith conjoined. We here find the conjunctival vessels engorged with blood, which gives to the eye a glassy appearance, as we sometimes

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see it in intoxication: the look is at the same time either unsteady, or fixed and staring; the facial muscles are distorted and denote spasm: *turgor* is present in the face—it is precisely the reverse of the state in which arsenic is applicable where there is more rigidity of the features—a collapsed face. A case of disease which comes under this head in which *belladonna* proved of the utmost service, and where it alone was capable of overcoming a dangerous affection in a few hours, may not be misplaced here.

A servant girl of some twenty years of age, who had laboured for a long time under monestæsia, with fluor albus, which, on account of the excoriation, prevented her walking and produced great debility, requested the aid of the family physician to relieve her of her ills. Every thing appeared to progress favourably after the exhibition of the remedies ordered, (no wonder, for the remedy which she received in the form of pills were compounded of no less than nine very powerful remedies,) the mucous discharge diminished, her strength returned, but still her catamenia did not appear.

It is a very common case, that domestics do not look upon these kind of affections as very important, and do not have recourse to medical aid until the affection is so harassing that it prevents the exercise of their duties. This occurred here: if the patient was better, she omitted her medicine; when she grew worse, she took her pills for four or six weeks together; which, within that time, usually produced some change in her state. Under such treatment, two years passed by without

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evident improvement, which the patient ascribed to the want of power in the remedy prescribed, and on this account, without the knowledge of her physician, several times took more pills than she was ordered. From this time her state became much aggravated: she gave up her medicine, and believed she would recruit without the aid of art. But as the disease continued to increase, and after the lapse of eight days, had arrived at an alarming height; and as her former medical attendant did not inquire any more respecting her, I was requested to afford her medical aid. The existing morbid state was the following: she had complained for several days of violent headache, particularly in the forehead, which obliged her to lie down frequently. The previous evening it had increased to such an extent, that her senses were no longer within her control, but she begun to speak in a wandering manner. I found her in bed, her face turgid, eyes reddened, unsteady look, distorted facial muscles and twitching around the mouth, as if she was constantly about to begin to speak; at the same time her whole body was constantly in motion; she appeared to be seeking for something with her hands, or endeavouring to remove the bed clothes, with which she at the same time always endeavoured to rise up and escape from bed. All soothing speeches on the part of her attendants calmed her only momentarily, she then renewed her efforts. She did not recognise any of those around her, returned no answers to questions, but uttered merely indistinct stammering murmurs. She desired nothing, hastily swallowed drink when offered her, but

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pushed food away from her. No alvine evacuation for two days. Her sleep was seldom a quarter of an hour at a time, and disturbed by phantasies, which continued even after awaking. Burning heat over the whole body, while the hands and feet felt cold. Before she had become insensible, she had complained of a sensitive bearing-down feeling towards the genitals, with muco-purulent discharge and pain in the small of the back; the discharge was still present. It was early in the morning, about 9 o'clock, that I exhibited the *belladonna* in the 30th dilution, and forbade all heating and exciting drinks. At 5 o'clock in the evening, I found my patient in a perspiration, which was not over profuse; she had recovered her thoughts and speech, and informed me herself that soon after taking the medicine she had fallen asleep, and slept until near 12 o'clock; on awaking, she felt as if new life had been infused in her, and would have considered her whole disease as a dream, if her debility had not convinced her that it was reality. On visiting her the next morning, I found her still weak, but out of bed; menstruation had supervened, and continued, as formerly, four days, without being accompanied by the sensitive throes and pain in the back. And thus was this highly dangerous affection removed in less than eight and forty hours.

Another very interesting case which, however, was not cured by one remedy alone, but still was indebted to the *belladonna* for a complete restoration, will not be unwelcome to many of my readers, as it affords a proof

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of how much may be done by homœopathy in similar cases, where allopathists give up the patients as lost.

I was requested by an honoured friend, Herr. Dr. S., to treat, in connection with himself and another worthy practitioner, a patient in an extremely dangerous situation, who was considered by both of them to be incurable allopathically. On the 5th of August, 1827, I met my friend at the bedside of the patient, who was in his 17th year. All the remedies, allopathically indicated in a case of *febris nervosa stupida*, had been applied fruitlessly; but in order to leave nothing untried, on the morning of the 9th a cold douche had been applied, which had aroused the patient from his lethargic stupor during its application, but in other respects had produced no change. From this time, the patient had remained eight hours without taking any medicine, and only about ten minutes before my arrival, two globules of the sixth dilution of opium had been administered to him. His state was as follows: The whole right side is paralysed; the arm and foot may be placed in any position, and the patient is unable to change it; the left side is in a constant state of convulsive motion; the head, when raised up and turned towards the right side, is drawn over to the left side and towards the breast; the left arm is laid sometimes over the head, and again he tosses about in the bed, draws the bed clothes upwards and throws them off again: he cannot, likewise, keep the left foot at rest, he sometimes retracts it and again extends and strives to uncover it: the facial muscles on the left side are in a state of constant spasmodic motion;

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the eyelid on this side is contracted, and the left angle of the mouth drawn backwards and upwards. The balls of the eyes are injected, the pupils much dilated and insensible to external irritants. The mouth could not be opened, but still on separating the lips the teeth and cavity of the mouth was covered with a viscid mucus. The beat of the heart was full and strong, about eighty-two to eighty-five in the minute. The want of correspondence between the pulse of both arms and the stroke of the heart was remarkable; neither of them coincided as regarded the absolute number of pulsations; those of the heart were scarce more than normal, but in the right arm it intermitted every eight or ten beats; the beat was full and sluggish, scarcely seventy in a minute, while in the left arm it was small, contracted, (spasmodic,) and exceeded ninety in the minute. There had been a slight dejection procured by an injection, and it appeared to be passed unconsciously; the urine likewise passed involuntarily. He lay completely insensible, and was entirely ignorant of what was acting about him; he desired nothing, and it was with difficulty that a spoonful of toast was given to him occasionally. Redness of face, burning heat over the whole body. On the right breast, and between the shoulders, within the circumference of a dollar, there was a number of papulæ, containing pus, which were grouped together, several of them had begun to heal; they were all situated on an inflamed base.

The evident similarity to the symptoms of *hyosciamus*, led us to administer this remedy in the ninth dilution; but in order to have no interference with the effects of

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the opium, we waited for two hours. A quick effect was here not to be expected, as it can never occur where active allopathic treatment has preceded, and the vital power has become null. The struggle which occurs between the vital power and the medicinal action, is slowly developed, and continues for a long time in the organism internally before the curative effect of the remedy is evidently manifested. It is to be looked upon as an evidence of beginning improvement, when, after the exhibition of a homœopathic medicament, the disease does not continue to increase, but remains unchanged. This was the case here. During the night (I remained with the patient) he slept sometimes a quarter or half an hour, and sometimes even lying upon the right side. The spasmodic motions of the left remitted, and more general quietude seemed induced, although consciousness was entirely wanting. This was the state of the patient when I took my leave on the following morning about 6 o'clock. I advised my friend by letter of his then state, and recommended him, if the disease had become aggravated on his arrival, to exhibit *arnica* in the billionth dilution. But towards evening the spasmodic attacks had increased to such an extent that Dr. S. found it more advisable to give *stramonium* in the ninth dilution. The parents gave up their son as lost, and I was notified on the 11th of May of his approaching dissolution. The more striking on this account did the request appear which desired me to visit him again on the 13th of the month, as he was improving, when I learnt from my friend that *stramonium* had allayed the

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spasms, and had changed the state into one to which *belladonna* was adapted, which he administered in the thirtieth dilution early on the 12th instant, after which, on the evening of the 13th, the disease was as follows:

The patient had, for the first time during his disease, slept refreshingly from 2 until 6 o'clock, and on his awaking, at which I was present, he looked upon the bystanders with a lively, smiling, though astonished, countenance. He answered questions correctly, but still somewhat deliberately. He knew nothing of what had passed. Occasionally if only one person was near him, he still spoke somewhat confused. He wished to get out of bed, have his clothes put on, take a walk or a ride, &c. His appetite returned, his tongue became clearer; the lips lost their dryness; the skin was moist; the redness of the eyes disappeared. Stool had not yet supervened. In the night of the 13th and 14th of August, he slept by the hour very quietly, was fully conscious on awaking, and felt himself so much stronger, that he got up without aid and made use of the close stool. His improvement progressed daily—he required no other remedy, and the reaction produced by the *belladonna* constituted the cure which commenced under such unfavourable auspices.

Intermittent Fevers. *Belladonna* is applied, homœopathically, with great benefit in several varieties of intermittents, on account of its inherent power of producing morbid periodical states. Before I enter upon intermittent paroxysms which indicate *belladonna*, I will first mention those intermittents which have lost

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their own peculiar type after allopathic treatment with Peruvian bark, and have become complicated with the symptoms arising from the abuse of that medicament, which frequently become so habitual, after the lapse of a short time, that they form a peculiar class of disease, which we comprehend under the name of *china cachexy*, which requires a particular treatment, and is so invete-rate as it becomes united with the dormant morbid con-ditions of the system, that it requires the greatest cir-cumspection on the part of the physician to cure it. In such cases, before we proceed to the annihilation of the chronic, or rather psoric, state, by having recourse to the antipsorics, it is better to diminish at least, if not entirely overcome, the china symptoms through the me-dium of antidotes. A perfect removal of the complaints arising from the inordinate use of *cinchona*, cannot be anticipated, as we can never draw a strict line of demar-cation between the effects of the *cinchona* and the latent psoric symptoms aroused by its influence, which com-bination the experienced practitioner recognises at the first examination. Notwithstanding this, the chief indi-cation is to remove, by proper antidotes, (vid. Hahne-mann's Mat. Med., vol. iii.) the prominent effects of the *cinchona*, and to continue these antidotes so long until there is no change which can interfere with the pro-gress of the cure. Among these antidotes, *belladonna* occupies a station, and although Hahnemann finds this indicated in a few cases only, (see his prefatory remarks to *cinchona*,) still these are so characteristic that this remedy can by no means be dispensed with, and without

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it no important improvement is to be anticipated. The following are the chief phenomena in which this remedy is to be applied. Hyper-sensibility and irritability of the whole nervous system; every trifling noise produces a great impression upon the senses of the patient, because they are all in a state of over excitability; his whole nervous system is too impressible, and at the same time over sensitive, and every thing which acts upon his senses operates upon his feelings and upon his mind; tremulous loss of power in all his limbs; dilated pupils; the eyes dull and surrounded by livid circles, or the face is puffed up and pallid; the white of the eye of a yellowish tinge; sensitive, rending pains in the head, which recur periodically, particularly in the temples, produced by the slightest noise; great languor and sleepiness, without being able to sleep, or, when sleep supervenes, he is very restless, disturbed by anxious, frightful dreams, or by absolute paroxysms of anxiety, or also by sudden flushes of heat. This great irritability of the nervous system extends even to the thoracic organs, therefore the anxious, gasping, oppressed respiration is no contra-indication to its application; neither does the existence of suppressed irritability of muscular fibre of the intestinal canal, manifested by constipation of several days duration, offer any objection. Characteristic for *belladonna*, is the common symptom induced by the misuse of *cinchona;* distention of the abdomen, particularly of the *colon transversum*, accompanied with sensitive pain. In general, when *belladonna* is adapted to such a *china cachexy*, over-sensibility of

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the nervous system, a languishing state of mind and body predominates.

It is impossible to describe accurately the intermittent states to which this remedy is adapted, as we have to direct our attention less to the febrile paroxysm, and more to the concomitant complaints. As I have already mentioned in the general remarks, it is particularly indicated in those diseases which recur periodically. This remark is applicable in all its force, particularly to those painful symptoms accompanying intermittents, which appear paroxysmally, the chill is less plainly marked, while the hot stage is sometimes accompanied by intercurrent rigors. We likewise find these intermittents but seldom with much thirst or profuse sweat; the thirst arises more from a desire to allay the dryness of the mouth and fauces.

Belladonna is often adapted to *febris intermittens quotidiana*, namely, when these daily paroxysms are accompanied by distressing headache with vertigo, redness of the eyes, nausea, vomiting, constipation, chill, or merely rigors with thirst, without being followed by great heat, accompanied by merely moderately increased temperature of the surface and perspiration.

Febres lentæ. Although *febres lentæ* belong to no particular system, still less to any particular organ in the general system, I must, nevertheless, mention them here on account of the arrangement; and also because *belladonna* proves very beneficial in their treatment. We most frequently find this form of fever as the concomitant of some topical affection, and mainly con-

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joined with organic lesions as a secondary phenomenon, which is always dependent upon the primary affection; on this, of course, we cannot base a radical cure. On this account I find the consideration of this variety of fever as a peculiar class of disease not proper, as not this, but the original disease and the peculiar characteristic phenomena dependent thereon, decides, at least under homœopathic treatment, the choice of a remedy, if we do not wish to institute a merely palliative treatment. Even those fevers of this class which appear originally as such, or as terminations of acute affections, are produced by causes quite different from those to which they are usually ascribed. Since Hahnemann's discovery with regard to the origin and promulgation of chronic diseases, we have become convinced that some morbid matter must be the ground of this, as it is of a large proportion of chronic affections. From this it may be seen that the radical cure of a *febris lenta*, even where the symptoms indicate *belladonna*, cannot be accomplished by this remedy alone, but it will succumb only to the exhibition of antipsorics. But still my mode of curing such affections, as in a large number of chronic diseases, is to exhibit one of our earlier homœopathic remedies which is best indicated, in order to produce a cessation of the disease for a long time, during which period the proper antipsoric should be exhibited, which then acts less tumultuously upon the diseased organism, and the improvement progresses with more certainty. That *belladonna* is one of the chief remedies in this febrile form among the non-antipsorics, I can

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attest by repeated experience. This is particularly the case in this febrile form in children with violent abdominal pains and involuntary evacuations, usually dependent upon induration of the mesenteric glands. Arsenic and mercury are likewise of much service in these fevers, but their effects are seldom so evident as those of *belladonna*. This is likewise the case where these fevers are the concomitants of organic lesions in other systems.

DENTITION. Dentition in small children is to be considered as a form of febrile disease, of greater or less importance: as *belladonna* is an admirable remedy during dentition, and in the complaints conjoined therewith, I shall here mention, somewhat specially, some of these affections. Dentition of children exalts the irritability of the nervous system frequently to a very high degree, by which a morbid state of the vascular system is induced, which is manifested in the form of fever. The more moderate grade of this exalted irritability of both the vascular and nervous systems, which is manifested by increase of temperature, thirst, shortness of breath, starting during sleep, &c., succumbs in a short time by the administration of *aconite*, or sometimes *chamomilla*, or some other remedy; it recurs, however, so long as the cause, the dental irritation, is not fully overcome, and may frequently be again allayed by the same remedy. In those cases, on the contrary, to which *belladonna* is adapted, it often appears from the first with great violence, and with symptoms of a dangerous character. We have here to remark, that these attacks,

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for the most part, depend upon inordinate irritability, and impressibility of the nervous system, and are therefore almost always spasmodic, to which the febrile phenomena become conjoined secondarily. These attacks are not always preceded by premonitory symptoms, they very often appear suddenly. *Belladonna* should undoubtedly be administered in those cases where children awake from sleep as if frightened, look anxiously around, or stare fixedly at some object, with pupils dilated, and an altered expression, while all the muscles of the body are in a spasmodic state, the child is quite rigid and stiff, the whole body, but particularly the forehead and the hands, are extremely hot, and the urine is passed involuntarily. Such a state usually continues but a few minutes, but soon recurs, while the heat is constant, and the child is scarcely able to quench its excessive thirst. If these paroxysms, namely, the tonic spasms, continue longer than a few minutes—if, in place of the heat, coldness or cold sweat supervenes, under such circumstances *stramonium*, *hyosciamus* and *opium* are indicated. If the child has been restless for several nights, without having had any great attention directed to it—if it has tossed about with burning heat of the whole body, and has desired to drink frequently—if redness of the skin, trembling of the limbs, anxiety, gasping, sighing, with a short concussive spasmodic cough, succeeded by short, quick, noisy respiration and perceptible oppression of the chest—if the conjunctiva is injected—if the body is agitated by individual shocks which are repeated almost like electric shocks—if, moreover, convulsions of the

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limbs supervene, *belladonna* is indicated beyond doubt. In such and similar cases, it is a loss of time on the part of the physician to exhibit a dose of *aconite* first, in order to allay the fever, from which he cannot derive the effect that he would in simple inflammatory vascular fever without complication.

Belladonna is of great importance in many kinds of *fever after delivery*, particularly in those which originate from violent mental emotions, which is succeeded by suppression of the milk. These fevers are prone to assume such a character, that we may with justice call "puerperal fevers." Where they are thus constituted, the breasts sympathise, there is swelling, induration and redness, which radiates to one point, (erysipelatous inflammation,) the milk is suppressed, and there are stinging and rending pains in the mammæ. This also frequently occurs after *weaning*, but still without any constitutional disturbance, except the accompaniment of a greater or less degree of vascular fever; *bryonia* deserves preference to *belladonna* in these cases—indeed it merits the name of a specific.

If abdominal disturbances, namely, of the genital system, and symptoms of the nervous and vascular system become annexed to this affection of the breasts, we have a complete puerperal fever. *Belladonna* is particularly useful in such a fever, if a number of the following symptoms are present: the complaints of the mammæ already specified, short breath, anxiety, sensitive drawing, stinging, labour-like pains deep in the abdomen, with a sensitive urging towards the genitals and the

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anus, a constant desire to go to stool, with which there is always a discharge of somewhat grumous, offensive, black blood, or the lochial discharge is entirely suppressed; meteorism of the whole abdomen, without eructations or flatulent discharges, with pains in the abdomen, aggravated by touch, and by a constant irritation to a hacking cough; burning heat over the whole body, particularly on the forehead and palms of the hands, with sweat on other parts, and violent or only moderate thirst, with which deglutition is impeded from an unpleasant constriction of the pharynx; violent pains in the head, with a sensation of outward pressure in the forehead; the vessels of the head distended, and the vessels of the albuginea injected; the pupils either contracted or dilated, with which the eyes have a glassy appearance; headache, which is intensely increased by every motion and noise, as well as moving the eyes, frequently so violent that the patient is deprived of his senses, and a sort of *delirium furiosum* becomes united; the sleep is usually restless, disturbed by jactitations and not refreshing. In a case of this kind, the existence of constipation is no contra-indication to this remedy, as this generally disappears after the removal of the abdominal pains, by the exhibition of this curative. The healthy temperament of the patient deserves but little attention; for if we were to be guided by this, we should give *nux vomica* where the individual is of a choleric temperament, and *pulsatilla* in a still, mild disposition. It does not appear superfluous for me to mention, that *belladonna* always deserves more accurate

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consideration when a puerperal fever assumes more the nervous character, or at least is so disposed, while *nux vomica* is better applicable where erethismus predominates; *pulsatilla* and *coffea* where there is over-excitability of the nervous system, (where the patient believes she cannot support the pains.) It is scarce necessary for me to mention, that particular morbid symptoms may require entirely different curatives from those here mentioned, of which I will only mention *chamomilla* and *rhus toxic.* *Belladonna* is likewise applicable in many other morbid states of the female sexual organs.

INFLAMMATORY AFFECTIONS. I now proceed to treat of the *inflammatory diseases* in which *belladonna* should be applied, and will first mention a variety of *nervous pneumonia* in which this remedy has afforded me essential aid, as it removed the nervous and all the pneumonic symptoms, and left the disease in such a state that *pulsatilla,* and subsequently *mercurius,* was indicated. I refer to my remarks on this subject regarding the application of *belladonna* in this disease in the Archives, Vol. viii. No. 2, page 37, and will here merely mention *arnica* as another important remedy in such cases.

ACUTE AND CHRONIC HEPATITIS. Acute and chronic inflammations of the liver are often so constituted, that *belladonna* proves curative. In chronic hepatitis, which is characterized by a constant sensibility of the hepatic region, a yellowish teint, change in the quality of the alvine evacuations, irregular appetite, increased thirst, restless nights, *belladonna,* alternated with some

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other remedy adapted to this state, effects all that is possibly expected; indeed I have even seen perfect cures follow in cases which were not too chronic. In invete-rate *hepatitis chronica*, we can restore a relative health to the constitution by this remedy, but still for a short time only; for even if *belladonna* undoubtedly possessed anti-psoric properties, still the cure of such an important affection but seldom occurs through the medium of one remedy only—several antipsorics are requisite. The cure of acute hepatitis, on the contrary, where the symptoms indicate it, is often effected by this one remedy, particularly when the convex surface, the diaphragmatic portion is inflamed, in which case the pain is not so much a stinging, but rather pressing, extending into the thorax and the region of the shoulder, with which there is a distention in the epigastrium, and an insufferable tension directly across the abdomen above the umbili-cus, which produces oppressed respiration and anxiety, and a congestion of blood to the head, with which ob-stupefaction, with nebulous vision and vertigo, with dis-position to syncope, is conjoined. If there is annexed to these symptoms considerable thirst, agonizing jactita-tion, sleeplessness, &c., there is scarce any other remedy indicated than *belladonna*, which can alone allay this morbid state. But still the physician should accurately note every peculiarity of the case, and see if, perhaps, *chamomilla*, *pulsatilla*, *bryonia*, *mercurius*, *nux vomica*, or another remedy, is not indicated.

Nephritis. The effects of *belladonna* in nephritis are beyond question when the disease is so constituted as to

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demand its application. The stinging, burning pains in the region of the lumbar vertebræ, which extend downwards along the ureter towards the bladder, particularly when they occur periodically with increased violence, are a chief criterion for its application, if *hepar sulphuris* is not probably better indicated. Even the colicky pains which are conjoined therewith, as well as the gastralgia, the heat and distention in the region of the kidneys, the passage of a fiery, flaming urine, in small quantities, the anxiety and restlessness, as well as the constipation, &c., offer no contra-indication to its exhibition. There are, however, several other remedies besides this which are applicable in this disease.

ANGINOSE AFFECTIONS. *Belladonna* deserves particular consideration in inflammation of the whole throat internally, and of the fauces; in such cases, it is the most prominent of all our remedial agents, where there is no swelling of the mouth, tongue or gums, with salivation, which require *mercurius* to be exhibited. *Belladonna* is indicated where there is vivid redness of the soft palate, of the base of the tongue, the uvula and the tonsils, unaccompanied by much swelling of these parts, the patient experiences a stinging pain in the parts specified when swallowing, which somewhat impedes deglutition, and is often accompanied with a sensation as if these parts were contracted. When not making the deglutitory effort, there frequently exists a pain which is more of a rending character, which extends upwards to the temples, and downwards to the lower jaw, and into the sub-maxillary glands, which are likewise in a

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state of tumefaction; a so-termed *angina faucium*, both *tonsillaris* and *uvularis*. The accompanying fever is generally not very high; a *synochus*, with great dryness of the mouth, which requires frequent moistening. *Belladonna* is likewise adapted to those anginose affections which are accompanied by swelling of the muscles of the throat and nape, and in which the pains are much aggravated by motion.

The angina, which appears as a metastasis in many *scarlatina* epidemics, where the whole disease is situated in the pharynx and mouth, without being accompanied by the scarlet eruption, and during which a number of small, offensive ulcers form in the mouth and fauces, which are accompanied by unusual debility and prostration, with which the patient is likewise obliged to drink constantly, does not always succumb to *belladonna*, nor to *arsenic*, but often to *nux vomica*. *Pulsatilla* is better adapted than *belladonna* to an anginose affection very much resembling that first described, but where, instead of the vivid redness of the internal parts, there is more of a dark varicose distention of the vessels.

ABDOMINAL INFLAMMATION. *Belladonna* is never applicable in uncomplicated abdominal inflammation; *aconite* is, in these cases, specific; but is applicable in a so-termed *sub-inflammatory state*, which, according to my experience, depends upon the existence of adhesions in the abdominal cavity, and which are accompanied by symptoms like true inflammation, but still far less violent. This view requires further confirmation from experience and observation.

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INFLAMMATION OF THE LYMPHATIC VESSELS AND GLANDS IN CHILDREN. This is a disease in which the efficacy of *belladonna* is undoubted, in which it almost invariably proves serviceable. It often appears periodically, is excited by slight, frequently very trivial, causes; recurs and often continues until puberty, and even a more advanced age, particularly if scrofula existed during childhood without any attempt at radical cure having been instituted. It is well known to homœopathists that scrofula belongs to chronic diseases, and consequently cannot find a radical cure in *belladonna*, but at the extent it can be used only as a proper intercurrent remedy, which must always give place to a properly indicated antipsoric. It is therefore not my intention to speak here of this so-termed chronic state of the glandular system, in which *belladonna* merely acts the part of a palliative; but my object is to mention, somewhat more specially, that morbid state which appears both as an acute affection during the existence of scrofula in the lymphatic vessels and glandular system, or which may likewise appear in an acute form in its primary state in the systems specified in which *belladonna* is exhibited with the greatest benefit.

Inflammation of the lymphatic vessels and glands is readily recognised, particularly if it attacks those which are more superficially situated, and thereby becomes perceptible. The affected lymphatics may be distinguished by the reddened spots which resemble shining red, inflamed, and at the same time radiating, patches, which often extend to where one or more of

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the larger conglomerate glands are situated: small glands are frequently affected in their course, which likewise become inflamed, swollen, and give to these inflamed patches a modulated feel. The temperature of the affected parts is exalted, producing a tensive, extremely sensitive, stinging pain, whereby the tumefaction is very perceptible externally; the pains are much aggravated by motion, but usually become exacerbated when the fever accompanying supervenes, which is mostly of the character of synochus, and is frequently accompanied by gastric symptoms. An erysipelatous inflammation of the parts affected is often conjoined; but as *belladonna* is frequently adapted to erysipelatous inflammations, as well of the face as of other parts, this offers no contra-indication to its exhibition. The symptoms which remain after *belladonna* has exhausted its influence, indicate *mercury*, *rhus*, or *nux vomica*.

The so-termed *cold swellings* which we so often see on the labia and external genitals, with tension, even fluctuation and violent pains, which generally arise from an exhalation of lymph, or lymphatic congestion, and never periodically, often indicate *belladonna*; it corresponds in these cures always according to the symptoms with *mercur.*, *pulsatilla*, *dulcamara*, *conium*, &c.

I will here mention an affection which succumbed to the exhibition of *belladonna*. An inflammatory swelling of the face, of one cheek and the upper lip, with hard spots, which pained violently on the slightest pressure, supported no covering, was attended with

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throbbing, pulsating pains, and confusion and dulness of the head.

It is, according to my views, not improper to pass from these glandular affections immediately to a very distressing ophthalmic affection, in which alleviation of the very frequent recurrence of twenty relapses of acute attacks is effected by *belladonna*. I refer to *ophthalmia scrofulosa*. That the radical cure of this disease, which not only affects the eye, but interferes with the developement of the whole organism of children, cannot be effected except by antipsorics, is a view which has of late been confirmed by repeated experience.

Notwithstanding this, many homœopathists will be glad to learn, that frequently where the symptoms indicate it, I commence the treatment with *belladonna;* and on the recurrence of a relapse, I exhibit it as an intercurrent remedy, after the full effects of the proper antipsoric have been exhausted. It is particularly indicated where the vessels of the sclerotic coat are injected with blood, a sensitive pressure in the eye is experienced, which is increased by opening the eye, and thereby produces photophobia, which depends upon this inflammatory state; the canthi are frequently somewhat reddened and lippitudo exists early in the morning; there is likewise often very violent coryza, which produces excoriation of the nose, and inflamed pimples around the nostrils and on the lip. A slight cold, which is often scarcely noticed on the sudden supervention of cold, damp weather, occasions the appearance of a relapse. The morbid symptoms here mentioned likewise indicate the

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exhibition of *conium maculat.;* but before deciding to administer this curative, I would desire the physician to note accurately the *photophobia*, and see whether it depends upon inflammation of the eye, in which case *belladonna* is adapted, or merely from increased irritability of the optic nerve, when it is better to exhibit *conium.*

CATARRHAL OPHTHALMIA. *Belladonna* is just as well adapted to *catarrhal ophthalmy*, mainly where there exists redness of the margins of the lids, particularly in the canthi, a feeling of burning, photophobia, dryness of the eyes, increased pain when light impinges, morbid secretion of the meibomean glands, and redness of the conjunctiva. We can with certainty depend upon the curative powers of *belladonna*, where there is a catarrhal affection constituted like that mentioned under scrofulous ophthalmia, and conjoined with this a short, dry, hacking, spasmodic cough, which recurs in periodical attacks.

The homœopathist is sometimes called on to treat the sequelæ of such an ophthalmic affection after preceding allopathic treatment, which is known by the great sensitiveness of the eyes and lids, diminished visual power, glimmering before the eyes, and ocular spectra, which is likewise often cured by *belladonna*, if *nux vomica* (chiefly where there is congestion to the head, and where the patient is addicted to the use of exciting drinks,) is not evidently better adapted.

ARTHRITIC OPHTHALMIA. Of those affections of the eyes to which *belladonna* is adapted, the so-called *arthritic* deserve to be mentioned. It mainly proves

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essentially serviceable where the accompanying gouty complaints correspond closely with those of this remedy. That the dark red which exists in this complaint is not particularly indicative of this medicament is well known to me; but still this does not constitute the whole of the disease. The sensitive pressure in the eyes, the photophobia, lachrymation, the preceding or still existing affection of the organism generally, particularly the violent gouty pains around the eye, and in the ball itself, with or without photophobia, particularly if they recur periodically, are very decisive as to the applicability of *belladonna*.

Amaurosis. In addition to the inflammatory ophthalmies, there are several others which are not inflammatory, or at least but slightly so, in which this medicament deserves consideration. And here amaurosis claims our first attention. In this distressing disease, so deplorable to the patient, which depends upon paralysis of the optic nerve, the physician can never at once with certainty pronounce a favourable prognosis. The various causes must here be noted, whether the disease depends upon latent psora, or an ancient syphilitic affection. In both of these cases *belladonna* will prove only of partial service where the amaurosis has commenced. *Belladonna* is particularly indicated in this affection when the disease arises suddenly, or after a preceding inflammation of the eye arising from a cold affecting the eye locally. In these cases it is but seldom that there is complete amaurosis, for the patients are always able to distinguish objects,

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sometimes more plainly and again less distinctly, but always as if enveloped in a dark veil or mist, with which black spots, or flakes, swim before the eyes, which disappear and are immediately replaced by others; the patient is often affected with violent vertigo, which generally terminates in a considerable decrease of visual power, and sometimes in violent headache, with which the sufferer is frequently deprived of consciousness. At this period the eye has not entirely lost its peculiar expression, and here it is that *belladonna* is often exhibited with the most evident effect. Those cases of amaurosis which originate in a psoric, will require particular treatment, in which this remedy may sometimes be given alternately with the antipsorics.

A variety of *retinitis*, in which *belladonna* is a very efficient curative, may be known by the following symptoms: when the disease originates, photophobia and lachrymation, sensitive, pressing, stinging pains in the head above the eyes, with painful sensations in the ball of the eye itself, as if the eye was being torn out, or as if it was pressed internally to the head; flashes and sparks of fire before the eyes, which are increased when congestion to the head occurs; there is generally conjoined with this greater or less amblyopia, *musci volitantes* appear, which are surrounded by a fiery periphery, which gradually disappear as the amblyopia increases; there is usually a somewhat contracted state of the pupil conjoined with this complaint. If there becomes conjoined with these existing symptoms an inflammation of the choroid coat, iris and sclerotica, the

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physician should well consider whether the supervention of these does not offer any contra-indication to the exhibition of *belladonna*.

Belladonna is sometimes applicable in *presbyopia* and *diplopia*; it is particularly indicated in diplopia if the muscles of the ball of the eye have originally been affected with spasms, with which the patient suffers from painful sensations in the orbit. It is likewise a proper intercurrent remedy in the so-called nyctolopia, in *weakness of sight*, which is of such common occurrence, and *spots on the cornea*, in which last much is effected with *cannabis*, *hepar sulph.*, *aurum*, *conium*, *arsenic*, and the antipsorics.

Inflammation of the brain, particularly in childhood. I have but little to say on this disease, as Dr. Mullen, in an early number of the Homœopathic Archives, has given all that is essential regarding *belladonna* as a curative in this affection. Some practical hints, drawn from experience, is all I can here find place for.

An elevated, prominent forehead in children disposes to this disease. The physician should be very careful in treating affections of children in which there is evident excitement of the brain, not to overlook this, in order to prevent an absolute supervention of inflammation of the brain. We may with justice conclude, on an irritation of the cerebral system in children, if, after weaning, they cry much, become very restless, do not eat, but drink more than usual—this state may be removed by *belladonna*. A state very similar to this, which likewise denotes an affection of the brain, is met

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with in nursing infants, who become sick suddenly, vomiting after sucking, which is so common in the first weeks, disappears, and the child refuses to take the breast. This I have often cured in a very short time with this remedy. A good criterion for the application in inflammatory cerebral affections, we find in the constant bowing with the head. Other symptoms which call for *belladonna* are, the exalted state of the patient where the slightest noise affects him to such a degree that he almost loses his senses, the comatose sleep, the heat of the head, the reddened, turgid face, with the perceptible pulsation of the arteries of the head and neck, and the distention of the veins; the injected, fiery eyes, with the wild, unsteady look, &c. *Belladonna* is still more characteristic when hydrophobic symptoms become conjoined. The accompanying fever, whether it appears as typhoid or synochal, offers no contra-indication if the other symptoms indicate this curative.

Otitis. Although I am convinced, from repeated experience, that *pulsatilla* is almost specific in *otitis interna et externa*, still cases do occur in which it is not sufficient, but must give way to *belladonna.* This occurs where the internal inflammation is from the first more vividly developed than the external, or where the consensual cerebral symptoms which approximate very closely to cerebritis, as sensitive tension of the head, delirium and madness, convulsions and syncope, aphonia, &c., are prominent phenomena.

The cure of *frozen limbs* is but seldom effected by a single remedy; it generally requires several, among

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which *belladonna* occupies a prominent place. It is indicated particularly where the frozen member is of a bluish-red colour and swollen, with beating, pulsating pains in the parts affected; *pulsatilla* is likewise admirably adapted to these cases, and while the gentle phlegmatic temperament decides for this remedy, a sad, indifferent, and, at times, violent tone of mind, more particularly indicates *belladonna*.

Dr. Muller, as well as Dr. Gross, has given all that is requisite regarding the prophylactic and curative powers of *belladonna* in scarlatina. I have only to mention that the colossal doses in which allopathists exhibit this remedy as a prophylactic, prove extremely injurious, as they, by this means, produce malignant anginose affections and fever, ulceration of the corners of the mouth, eruptions of various kinds, &c. The homœopathist is often called on to relieve this medicinal disease, in which case he should accurately note all of the phenomena in order to select a remedy which is capable, antidotally, of arresting the effects of this remedy. There is no remedy better adapted to this purpose than *camphor* in repeated doses, which, according to the characteristic symptoms, may be followed by *pulsatilla*, *mercurius*, *hyosciamus*, *opium*, *hepar sulphur*, &c.

When scarlatina and purpura miliaris prevail at the same time, we cannot prevent contagion by *belladonna* alone, but this should be alternated with *aconite*. We should, of course, permit the *belladonna* to act longer than the *aconite*. With which of the two prophylactics

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we should commence this preservative medication, depends upon the violence of the one or the other of the diseases. If the symptoms of purpura are more dangerous in a subject attacked than in another with scarlatina, it is always more advisable, in order to preserve the other members of the family, to make a commencement with *aconite*, and, after twelve or sixteen hours have passed, follow it by a dose of *belladonna*, and, in the course of six or seven days, repeat the *aconite*. If the purpura is throughout more violent than the scarlatina, this mode of treatment is likewise applicable in other cases. If, on the other hand, the scarlet fever rages with the greatest violence, *belladonna* should, from the first, be exhibited as the prophylactic.

Where there is a complication of both diseases in one subject, the mode of treatment of course differs. It is impossible to decide accurately, without seeing the patient, with what remedy we should commence, as the decision depends upon the degree of fever and the accompanying affection of the throat. Gastric symptoms are generally united with these diseases, whether they appear separately or conjointly, and the accompanying fever is synochus. The fever may likewise assume the character of synocha, on the appearance of which violent vomiting results. In the latter case, we mostly observe it in strong, robust subjects, and therefore find more decisive indications to commence immediately with *aconite*, particularly when the heat, restlessness and anxiety momentarily increase. Although the fever is thus moderated, still the inflammatory character of

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the anginose affection is not to be overlooked, as this increases as the exanthema becomes more developed, and here *belladonna* is admirably indicated.

Where the fever, from the commencement, assumes the character of synochus, *belladonna* is often adapted immediately from the commencement. It is likewise, sometimes, also the case, namely, when sensitive subjects are attacked, that we are obliged to exhibit a small dose of *coffea*, in order to alleviate the over-violent pains, with tearful tone of mind.

MEASLES. This exanthematous affection is of no less importance than that of which we have just spoken; it often appears very violently, and is often cured by *belladonna*, or at least its progress is arrested by it. It is particularly indicated if the patient is harassed by violent thirst, which cannot be fully gratified from the great pain produced by the effort at swallowing. The patient is troubled with a dry cough, which affects the chest, with fluent coryza and shortness of breath; the eyes are injected and filled with tears, anxious inquietude of mind, with over-excitability of the nervous system in general, sleeplessness, &c. If the measles follow their natural course, *aconite* suffices to diminish the febrile excitement, but still in many cases I found *belladonna* indicated; in a few cases *mercury*, namely, where the affection of the throat indicated it.

FURUNCULI. This is an eruptive form in which, where other symptoms indicated it, I have often found *belladonna* useful. In particular I have overcome the disposition to their frequent recurrence by this curative.

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I have likewise exhibited *sulphur*. As a conclusion to the acute forms of disease in which *belladonna* proves serviceable, I will mention *hydrophobia*. This undoubtedly ranks with those acute diseases in which a sub-inflammatory state of the parts affected is not to be overlooked, and is plainly manifested in the pharynx, œsophagus, and nervous ramification, particularly in the brain and head, more in its meninges, and inclines to *typhus versatilis*. It is not always the result of the hydrophobic virus, but is also a concomitant of particular nervous states. Hahnemann says in his prefatory remarks to *belladonna*, "the most certain preventive of hydrophobia, is always the smallest dose of *belladonna*, given every three to four days, and the cure is generally affected by one or two doses."

Belladonna is, beyond question, the principal curative in this disease, but still several others rank with it, namely, *hyosciamus*, *stramonium*, and *cantharides*. I will draw a comparison between these remedies, and the symptoms which denote the one or the other of them are printed in italics.

Belladonna is particularly indicated where there exists an *ineffectual effort to sleep*, *anxious respiration*, *anxious*, *burning thirst* for liquids, which the patient hardly receives before he thrusts them away; *red*, *tumefied*, *turgid face*, *and sparkling eyes*, *deglutitory efforts which produce suffocation*, with immoderate thirst, inability to swallow, *timidity*, *alternating with a desire to snap at the by-standers*, and to spit around him; *likewise a desire to run away*, *incessant motion of the*

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body. Although *belladonna* is not contra-indicated where convulsive movement of the extremities accompanies hydrophobia, still *hyosciamus* always deserves preference where *the convulsions are more constant*, the pharyngeal spasms are not so violent, and not so much a desire to snap at the by-standers and to spit, as a desire to *injure them in some other way*. The unquenchable thirst does not exist in those cases to which *hyosciamus* is adapted, but rather a wish *to moisten the mouth on account of the great dryness*, and especially the *paroxysms of fury*, which but seldom disappear momentarily; *sleep* occurs more frequently, which is often *interrupted* by *convulsions*, as if after a fright; while, where *belladonna* is indicated, there exists an ineffectual longing for sleep.

Stramonium appears to be indicated particularly where the following symptoms exist: restlessness, the most violent *convulsions*, (which assume more the tonic character,) where the patient is *furious*, so that he must be confined; he throws himself about in bed, sleepless, and utters *piercing shrieks; he is delirious, without recollection or sense;* pupils much dilated, *great desire to bite and tear every thing with the teeth*, extreme dryness of the mouth internally, and of the fauces; *violent convulsions on seeing a light, a looking-glass, or water;* unconquerable aversion to water, with constriction and convulsions of the pharynx, *foams at the mouth*, and spits frequently.

Whether the views of DD. Hartlaub and Trinks,* * Vid. Arzneimittellehre, Band 1.

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that *cantharides* may prevent the outbreak of hydrophobia are correct, I am not able to decide. According to my views, it is adapted to this disease, when the *inflammatory symptoms* predominate, where the impeded deglutition does not depend upon the œsophageal spasms, but upon a highly inflamed state of this part, or rather is produced by the pains excited by swallowing—further, where *priapism* is conjoined with this disease.

Chronic states in which Belladonna is applicable.

Congestions. We have here first to speak of pathological congestions which produce disturbances in the organs which they affect. Of course we do not refer to physiological congestions, those which occur to the head from mental exercise, as from long continued thought, to the genitals and the breast during coition and when nursing. Morbid congestions occur in all of the organs: as *belladonna* does not prove serviceable in all of these, it is necessary to mention the organs thus morbidly affected, and then to treat, somewhat more specially, of the diagnosis of congestions, in order to give the homœopathic physician an accurate description of the cases in which he can exhibit this remedy with good effect.

Belladonna is particularly indicated in the most violent and severe *congestions to the head.* They are characterized by very great distention of the cutaneous veins of the head, with violent paroxysmal, burning,

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stinging, semi-lateral pains, which are sensibly aggravated by every motion of the body, and also by noise and a bright light. There is frequently conjoined sparks and flashes before the eyes, or even nebulous vision, connected with which there often exists roaring in the ears, or even attacks of syncope and comatose states. They usually occur at the period of developement of some important organ, namely, in childhood, during dentition, at the age of puberty, where the catamenial flow is not yet fully regulated, and finally from getting the feet wet during menstruation, or where amenorrhœa exists. The female is more prone to these congestions than the male, and here they are overcome with the most certainty by *belladonna*.

Some varieties of *congestion to the breast*, which are excited by the same causes as those to the head, are allayed by this curative. The following symptoms, in particular, direct us to the application of *belladonna:* very great shortness of breath, with an incessant, short cough, which is very harassing; anxiety, restlessness, strong and quick pulsation of the heart, even slight indications of thoracic spasm; burning heat, great thirst, to which not unfrequently symptoms of congestion to the head become united. When the alvine evacuations are sluggish, particularly where the attendants become anxious, we may order an injection of soap and water.

Although I do not assert that congestions to the abdomen are to be excluded from those forms of disease in which this remedy is applicable, which will be clearly manifested when I hereafter come to treat of diseases

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in which accumulations of blood and stagnations of the fluids in the abdomen cannot be overlooked, still it is chiefly in congestions to the uterine and hæmorrhoidal vessels, that here deserve particular attention. These congestions depend upon the same causes as those to the head and breast. They are generally characterized by tension, distension, pressure, heat, burning in the abdomen, as we frequently find it with hæmorrhoidal and hypochondriacal subjects; the congestion to the uterus, to which *belladonna* is adapted, is manifested particularly by a violent burning, stinging, fulness, tension and urging, deep in the abdomen and the sexual organs internally, with which there is often conjoined a dragging, lancinating sensation around the loins, and heat in this region; also sensitive pressure and constrictive pain in the small of the back, which causes the patient to walk slowly and carefully. I need not mention that consensual complaints frequently become annexed, namely, when these congestions continue for a long time, or recur frequently; they consist, particularly in some symptoms, of congestion to the head and chest. We find the same symptoms as already mentioned above, also in congestions to the hæmorrhoidal vessels, on which account both varieties, when they appear as described, are overcome by the smallest dose of *belladonna*.

Congestions to the uterus occur most commonly during pregnancy, and then frequently excite similar complaints. It is then sometimes the case, particularly at the time of delivery, and chiefly in old persons who

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are mothers for the first time, that these congestions, in conjunction with the rigidity of the muscular fibre of the uterus, produces obstruction in the dilatation of the os uteri, which the physician recognises, both by the symptoms as well as by examination; this state is likewise overcome by this remedy much sooner than it would occur by the unaided powers of nature.

That *belladonna* exercises a decided influence upon the uterus, is proved by the essential aid it affords in that terrible disease—*cancer of the uterus;* and in not merely the palliation, but the cure it effects in *relaxation of the uterus*, or even *prolapsus*, which arises from that disease. In all of these affections, the sensitive urging and pressing downward, as if all of the deeper seated viscera would protrude at the genitals, exists, with which there is generally united a sensitive pain in the sacrum, all of which symptoms characteristically indicate *belladonna*. If these symptoms do not exist, we must expect less aid from this remedy. If, however, the sacral pain alone is wanting, where the other symptoms indicate it, *platina* will be indicated. *Hepar sulphuris* is frequently adapted in these cases after the effects of *belladonna* are exhausted. We should in these cases be very careful respecting our doses, as in subjects of this character the irritability of the nervous system is much exalted, and after the exhibition of a large dose of *belladonna*, at least for the first few days, a number of symptoms of this remedy are developed, which might readily lead the tyro in homœopathy to suppose that he had selected a wrong curative.

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HÆMORRHAGES. This class of diseases ranks next to congestions, and, as I last spoke under that head of hæmorrhoidal congestions, I will at once say a few words respecting *hæmorrhoids*, in which, under proper circumstances, *belladonna* is likewise applied with benefit. It effects much in *bleeding piles* which are conjoined with insupportable pains in the back, a sensation as if the small of the back would break; it may be alternated with *hepar sulphuris*.

EPISTAXIS is allayed by various remedies. The concomitant symptoms, as well as the occasioning causes, are to be noted in these cases. If it supervenes where a fever or an inflammation exists, the physician will know how to select the proper curative; if fright, shame, anger, or any other violent passion which produces cerebral excitement, give rise to it, the homœopathic physician well knows the remedy indicated. He gives either *aconite*, *ignatia*, *cham.*, *pulsat.*, or *crocus*, &c. If the epistaxis arises from congestion to the head produced by incessant thought, *nux vomica* is the proper curative. If, on the contrary, the epistaxis is produced by congestions to the head from causes such as I before mentioned, then is *belladonna* sufficient to cure the disease permanently.

HÆMOPTYSIS. *Belladonna* is an indispensable intercurrent remedy in *hæmoptysis*, with the symptoms of congestion to the chest already mentioned, with a constant tickling irritation in the larynx which excites cough, and the utmost prostration; it should be alternated with *rhus*, *ledum*, *china*, *arnica*, *pulsatilla*, &c.

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Where this disease has become habitual, it requires remedies of the antipsoric class, which act more permanently, and these remedies can then only be made use of as intercurrents to overcome acute attacks or relapses during the action of the antipsoric, as an inveterate hæmoptysis cannot be thoroughly cured by remedies of the non-antipsoric class alone.

Belladonna is likewise serviceable in premature catamenia and metrorrhagia, if the sensitive bearing down pain already mentioned, with severe pains in the sacral region exists, and where the blood is more of a dark colour, and even coagulated.

SPASMODIC DISEASES. This remedy is applicable both in clonic and tonic spasms, if the other symptoms accurately indicate it. It indeed appears as if all of the spasms which it excites in its primitive effects were of the tonic character, but still the muscles are in a state of paralytic relaxation, while the deficient irritability produces a kind of immobility and sensation of stricture, as if constriction existed. In this view, the clonic spasms excited by small doses of this curative, in healthy individuals, are not to be considered as secondary effects, but are to be advantageously used in our curative efforts.

It is but seldom that *tonic spasms* supervene without being preceded, for a longer or shorter period, by premonitions which are characterized, in a greater or less degree, as spasms, and which, indeed, are to be looked upon as partial spastic affections. *Belladonna* is frequently curative in some of these premonitions, which, however, may appear as idiopathic diseases. Here

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belong partial spasms, shuddering and tremors of the extremities, cardialgia, spasmodic contracting sensation in the epigastrium, which is accompanied by shortness of breath, and an anxious, restless feeling in the chest, which sometimes extends towards the back, and excites an unpleasant drawing and stiffness in the nape and spinal column, and again attacks the internal parts, producing spasms of the tongue, obstructed deglutition, frequent gaping, vertigo and stupor. If the complaints become aggravated, the anxious paroxyms, the asthmatic state, the spasms of the organs of deglutition become more violent, and impaired visual power, distortion of the facial muscles, and an entire change of countenance consequent thereon; small, contracted, intermittent pulse are produced. If these symptoms are the concomitants of wounds—if there is conjoined therewith spasmodic closure of the jaws, (trismus,) so that it is impossible to open them, the termination in tetanus is not far distant. In administering *belladonna*, which is here indicated, the physician should exhibit it in the 30th dilution. All of the symptoms enumerated may appear singly; and in the following, this remedy is likewise adapted, where the concomitant phenomena indicate it: in *trismus*, both in adults and new born infants; *in spasmodic difficulty in swallowing*, or paralytic weakness of the organs of speech; likewise in *coma*, with dilatation of the pupils, redness and distension of the face, injection of the vessels of the *tunica albugi-*

nea; **where the mouth is firmly closed—patient cannot speak or swallow.**

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The symptoms which precede or accompany *trismus*, particularly in children, are constituted as follows when *belladonna* is indicated: restlessness, sudden crying and starting of the child while asleep; slight twitching motions, partly in the facial muscles, and in part of the muscles of the extremities; eyes distorted, inability to swallow or suck; as the disease increases, violent spasms supervene; anxious, spasmodic respiration, dilated pupils, the eyes wide open and fixed, finally involuntary discharges appear.

Besides these isolated spasmodic complaints, we have yet to mention *convulsive tremors of the head*, which are very different from those symptoms which depend upon debility, and appear in aged persons. I have several times cured this symptom by a single dose of *belladonna*; in other cases I was obliged to have recourse to *cocculus* and *aurum*.

In certain *asthmatic and suffocative paroxysms*, *belladonna* proves of essential service if the other symptoms indicate the primary effects of this curative; other remedies are in such cases likewise to be considered among them, *pulsatilla*, *chamomilla*, *nux vomica*, *ipecac.*, *arsenic*, &c.; in each case we should pay attention to the constitution, temperament, and the exalted or diminished impressibility of the general nervous system. When *belladonna* is indicated, it often proves radically curative after the exhibition of some intercurrent remedy, particularly in cases which have not become too chronic by repeated relapses, under which circumstances we must have recourse to *sulphur*, *calcarea*, or some other

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proper antipsoric, or even apply several of them. *Belladonna* is to be recommended in cases where there is a generally irritable constitution, with disposition to spasms, particularly in females, and likewise where organic lesions exist, in which case, however, *arsenic* is likewise frequently adapted.

CRAMP OF THE STOMACH. The selection of this remedy for this disease is not unattended with difficulty, as there are but few symptoms which accurately indicate it, which are not excited by other remedies in healthy constitutions. Thus much is certain, that *belladonna* is indicated in the most inveterate kinds of cardialgia, and generally in those cases in which *chamomilla* appeared to be indicated, but had been applied without any benefit. In but few cases is it applicable at the commencement of the disease, and *chamomilla* and *nux vomica* may be applied much more frequently. In very nervous subjects, and in females, we often find great excitability conjoined with this disease, and the disease itself so constituted that no remedy promises better success than *belladonna*, which, in these cases, should be given in a very small dose. The following symptoms in particular indicate this remedy: where the patient complains of a gnawing, pressive, or a spasmodic, tensive pain in the epigastric and gastric region, which forces him to bend backwards from time to time, and hold his breath in order to obtain relief; farther, if the violence of the pain produces unconsciousness, or even syncope, or where it always recurs at dinner time. Many kinds of abdominal spasms and pains are over-

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come by *belladonna*, and they should be considered somewhat in detail. Allopathic physicians have also learnt its power in these affections, and recommend it in very small doses, because it produces considerable effects on the nervous plexus, and particular nervous branches in the abdomen.*

Belladonna is an indispensable remedy in many abdominal pains which are relieved by bending forward or external pressure, and where the colon transversum is distended and protrudes. I have generally found this partial *wind colic* accompanied by griping, tearing pains, extending downwards in the affected part, which become more sensitive the more the patient strives to endure them, and which produces a sensation as if the swelling had disappeared above, and had sunk down into the abdomen. I never found any contra-indication even where the alvine evacuations were diarrhœal and purulent, which I have had several opportunities of seeing; in one case only it was necessary, in order to effect complete relief, to give a dose of *mercurius solub.*, as this remedy is often adapted after *belladonna*, and without its aid, a complete cure cannot be effected. *Belladonna* proves just as serviceable in *colocodynia flatulenta*, which excites syncope—like paroxysms, cold sweat, or also violent congestion of blood to the head, with redness of face and distension of the vessels to such a degree, that the patients become as if mad and furious, and are unable to support the inordinate violence of the

* Voigtel's Materia Medica, by Dr. C. G. Kuehn, vol. iii. p. 232. Leipsic.

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pains. A pain below the umbilicus, as if the parts had been seized and grasped with the nails, is likewise very characteristic for *belladonna*, and its place can but seldom be supplied by another remedy.

It is not less applicable in some cases of incarceration, volvulus and intussusception of the intestines, if the prominent spastic symptoms are of that character which indicate it; it is applicable more frequently in the latter of these affections than at first would seem credible, even when the disease approximates to the iliac passion, and frequently proves more serviceable than *opium* or *nux vomica*, particularly where there exists, conjointly, meteorism, with great inquietude and anxiety, spasmodic, griping pains in the abdomen and in the vesical region, and constant involuntary discharges of urine. Pregnant females are frequently attacked with spasmodic affections of the abdomen, in the form of labour-like pains, which are most violent in the sacral region, often so that they excite palpitations of the heart and shortness of breath, or spasmodic tremors and tremblings of the extremities, or even of the whole body, and are united with a dry heat and great thirst. These are also overcome with the greatest certainty by *belladonna*. I have, in several instances, removed excessively painful labour-pains with this curative in females who had suffered from spasmodic attacks during the whole period of gestation, and in whom the pains were very violent, conjoined with violent abdominal spasms—the abdomen above the uterine region retracted, and the patient in a state of

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syncope from the inordinate violence of the labour throes.

Hæmorrhoidal colics appear under very different forms; they undoubtedly belong to the more dangerous kinds of colic, as, in addition to the spasms, an inflammatory state of the vessels of the rectum may become developed. This disease is not uncommon where there exists a varicose state of the uterine and hæmorrhoidal vessels, and also after the cessation of the catamenia. *Belladonna* is particularly adapted where a constricting spasmodic tension in the abdomen, with a hot, burning sensation, and feeling of urging directly above the pubis, exists, which is inordinately increased by the slightest motion, and is succeeded by the sense of debility and over-excitement already mentioned.

Hooping-cough. *Belladonna* is an admirable remedy in hooping-cough, particularly when the disease has not attained its climax, or generally where it does not assume that dangerous character which can be overcome only by *drosera* or *cuprum acet.* It is even to be recommended in some cases where the disease becomes united to a latent psoric cachexy, which renders it far more intractable. In the full developement of the *convulsive stage*, where that very characteristic symptom, *apnœa*, exists, during the paroxysms of coughing, *belladonna* is less frequently applicable than where the cough appears spasmodic and dry, but does not possess those characteristic peculiarities which distinguish fully developed hooping-cough, and which offer rather a contra-indication to its exhibition.

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Belladonna effects much in spasmodic coughs in general, that is, where, with a dry, harassing cough, a kind of spasm of the larynx supervenes, which is frequently so violent that vomiting ensues, by which alone alleviation of the cough is effected.

I have several times removed with this remedy an insupportable, concussive, spasmodic cough, which does not permit one to inspire, excited by an incessant tickling in the superior part of the trachea, which is free from mucus, and which always appeared at eleven o'clock at night, arousing the patient from sleep.

Several kinds of catarrhal cough succumb to *belladonna*, and in the *stadium catarrhale* of hooping-cough, we can often apply it with benefit, particularly if the cough is more dry than loose, whether accompanied by febrile symptoms or otherwise, if the other symptoms indicate it. Much thirst, namely, at night, not only in this disease but in many others, is a criterion for the exhibition of this curative.

Some spasmodic affections of the diaphragm are relieved by *belladonna*. In a particular form of *singultus*, which is not of unfrequent occurrence, which, by its long continuance and frequent recurrence, affects the system very much, and exalts the irritability of the nervous system, I have applied this remedy, as well as *stramonium*, *hyosciamus*, and several other remedies, with very great effect. Dr. Gross cured a very dangerous case of this disease by a single dose of *belladonna*. This appeared at first every year, and afterwards recurred at shorter intervals, and continued

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uninterruptedly for several days; in its earlier stage, it could always be overcome by *moschus*, but finally it did not succumb to the largest doses of that substance. In such cases, we may make use of pediluvia of salt and ashes, as revulsives, with good effect.

This medicine has proved of no less service in frequent morbid *sneezing*, without any catarrhal affection, which I have in several instances seen so constituted that it bore close resemblance to audible inspiration, and produced such distortion of the face every time the patient sneezed, that one was led to believe that he had been seized with spasms; at length this distortion of the facial muscles does not disappear from time to time, but continues, and the patient assumes the appearance of an individual laughing. After continuing thus for several days, producing the utmost prostration, sleep occurs, and the sad scene terminates. I have never had a case of this kind to treat from the commencement, but only after a longer or shorter period of allopathic medication, during which the patient was obliged to swallow quantities of *valeriana*, *asa*, *moschus*, *opium*, &c., and no external remedy was left untried, which, in the aggregate, produced no other effect than at first to apparently shorten the attack, but finally were applied without any benefit. In one case it was necessary to give two doses of *belladonna* in order to cure the disease completely; in another case, I gave a dose of *stramonium* fourteen days after the *belladonna*. Whether this remedy is homœopathically indicated at the commencement of this disease, I am unable to state, as I have had no experience in the matter.

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EPILEPSY. This disease can generally be permanently cured by antipsoric remedies only, still the experience of several homœopathic physicians proves that some cases may be cured by *belladonna* alone, or some other non-antipsoric. In the *stadium prodromorum*, particularly when it precedes the attack for a long time, I have sometimes been able to prevent the appearance of the second stage. The following symptoms indicate the application of *belladonna:* great irritability of the whole nervous system, so that the patient is startled at the merest trifle; he becomes peevish and sensitive, and is affected by tremors and twitchings in the muscles, restless sleep, which is disturbed by frightful dreams; hyper-sensibility of the eyes, sparks and flashes before the eyes; also diplopia and myopia, (*stramonium* may also be indicated where these symptoms exist;) stammering speech, with congestion of blood to the head, and venous distension; vertigo, with roaring in the ears; convulsions of particular muscular parts, subsultus, distortion of the face, &c.

If the morbid symptoms of the first stage are constituted as here described, and if *belladonna* produces some effect, we may with certainty expect that it will be able to effect something in the disease itself, even if it is not able, without the aid of other curatives, to allay the disease in toto. It always deserves preference over all other remedies, when the attack itself begins in the superior extremities, with slight, painless convulsions; the face is sometimes distended and of a dark red colour; the eyes and mouth move convulsively; the former are

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injected and protruding—consciousness frequently very imperfect, even with these slight symptoms, and the attack is nearly ended before true tonic spasms and foam before the mouth appear. In the very commencement, I do not advise the exhibition of the remedy, as it may readily increase and lengthen the paroxysm; but I would rather administer it after the *stadium soporosum*. During the attack, it is better to apply, according to the prominent morbid indications, a dose of *aconite*, *ipecac.*, *ignatia*, or *coffea*, where it is not used as a daily drink; or an individual of fixed will should apply one hand upon the epigastrium and another on the forehead, or calm the patient with several magnetic passes. It appears to me to be certain, that *belladonna* alone is not capable of curing epilepsies, which are purely dynamic affections of the nervous system, (idiopathic epilepsy,) but still may frequently be applied as a proper intercurrent curative. My opinion is founded on the fact, that in so important a nervous affection as epilepsy, whether the attack commences in the extremities in the abdomen, or in any other part, the central organ, the cerebrum, is in a very excited state, similar to that which is elicited by the primary effect of *belladonna* in the healthy human organism; and, although long continued tonic spasms are not among the primary effects of *belladonna*, still clonic spasms, as manifested by tremors, convulsions, partial and general, are among its characteristic symptoms, and just these are the phenomena with which an epileptic paroxysm begins and terminates. We should therefore accurately note in every case of

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epilepsy the kind of convulsion, its supervention, &c., but particularly the spiritual and mental state of the patient, his usual physiognomy, and we will find many aberrations which are characteristic for *belladonna*, and point to its exhibition. My opinion appears still more reasonable, when I direct attention to the fact, that epileptic subjects are generally individuals of impressible, debilitated, delicate constitutions, more frequently children and females, and *belladonna*, in its primary effects, excites this inordinate impressibility, and these mental symptoms peculiar to childhood, the particular irritability and sensibility which is more frequent in females than males.

CHOREA. We find this remedy much more frequently applicable in *chorea-like attacks* than in epilepsy, as these are more general in childhood, and indicate this curative in every respect. Chorea but seldom appears suddenly, but is developed gradually. We cannot, however, always prognosticate its appearance from the premonitory symptoms, as from these we could just as well suppose the supervention of some other affection; on this account, the physician will not always immediately think upon the application of *belladonna*, and frequently there is no indication for its exhibition, but rather for *coffea*, *nux vom.*, *pulsat.*, *ignat.*, *ipecac.*, and other remedies. Where, on the other hand, the disease has already appeared, *belladonna* is one of the chief curatives, as are also *stramon.*, *hyosciam.*, *ignat.*, and *rhus*, which, alternated with this, frequently cures the disease without the aid of antipsorics. Of course the

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physician will not exhibit these curatives unconditionally in this disease, but study each case in its details, and see whether some other remedy, besides those here specified, may not be adapted.

RAPHANIA. Although the so-termed *ergotism* (*krichel krankheit*,) is more common when the crops fail, and during years in which there is a scarcity produced, by eating bad food, and is wont to appear epidemically and usually in an acute form, still, during my residence in Erzburgh, I witnessed particular cases of this disease which deserve particular consideration here, as *belladonna* proved, homœopathically, adapted in a majority of the cases. I witnessed this disease only among the poorest classes, whose food consisted chiefly of potatoes and very heavy black bread. The cases which came under my notice were of the chronic form only, usually in the *stadium prodromorum*, and I can only recall a solitary cure which was more developed. *Belladonna* acted most admirably, applied in the smallest doses, to the most robust individuals, if their state was thus constituted, or at least where some of the following symptoms existed: vertigo, as if the patient would fall, with the face somewhat distended, eyes injected, with dilated pupils, debility and prostration, so that the patient was obliged to lie down constantly on this account, but more from a violent headache, affecting the whole head, but more particularly severe in the forehead. The sleep, which was restless and anxious, interrupted by startings and frightful dreams, was very characteristic for *belladonna;* the sense of formication and torpidity of the

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extremities, frequently interrupted by rending pains in them; the constant restlessness and anxiety, and the slight convulsive movements of the limbs. If nausea, sickness, cardialgia, vomiting, and spasmodic complaints in the gastric region, were conjoined therewith, I endeavoured to overcome these by another proper remedy. Gross cured ergotism with *solanum nigrum*.

Apoplexy. This remedy is likewise applicable in apoplectic states, more frequently in *apoplexia sanguinea* and *serosa* than in *apoplexia nervosa*, because the latter usually appears suddenly, without any premonitions, against which *belladonna* often proves of essential service. The following are the symptoms which particularly indicate it: vertigo, obstupefaction and heaviness of the head; weighty, pressing pain in the head, with distension of the veins; flashes, sparks and darkness before the eyes; tinnitus aurium, torpid state, torpor or transient cessation of the functions of the organs of sense and the sensorium; no desire and inability to mental exercise; constant inclination to sleep; deep sleep, interrupted by anxious, frightful dreams, &c. All of the phenomena, in a habit which is disposed to apoplexy, and where their general constitution disposes to it—where there is a disposition to congestion to the head, with an evident peculiar alteration in the appearance of the patient, point with tolerable certainty to the supervention of *apoplexia sanguinea*; and it is at this period that *belladonna* is exhibited with the best effect. If *apoplexia nervosa* is preceded by premonitions, the symptoms of a commencing paralytic state of the nervous

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system are frequently so constituted that *belladonna* is the chief curative. Where, for instance, there exists impeded deglutition, stammering speech, tremors of the limbs, formication and sense of numbness in the limbs, paralytic state of the optic nerve, with dilated pupils, which contract with difficulty. We may conclude on the supervention of *apoplexia serosa* with some degree of certainty, when there is annexed to some or more symptoms of sanguineous and nervous apoplexy, which we have specified, a burning internally throughout the whole body, while it is cold externally—this is very characteristic for the application of *belladonna*. It will prove interesting to many individuals to learn that *belladonna* has proved serviceable, even in apoplexies of old people, where the reactive power of the organism was almost extinguished, and was first somewhat revived by this curative. I have very recently treated a case of this character, where the lingual and œsophageal nerves were so much paralyzed, that my patient, who was a female, aged 79, could not swallow a drop of any fluid, or speak. *Belladonna*, in ten hours, removed this inability to swallow, and likewise an œdematous swelling of the feet, which had appeared within a few days. In apoplexy, which is fully developed, *belladonna* is not adapted at first, but subsequently, when the more threatening symptoms have been removed by other proper curatives, among which are *aconite*, *ipecac.*, *arnica*, *coffea*, *opium*,* &c.

* Also, *tart. emet.*—*Translator.*

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Gout. Uncomplicated arthritic complaints are never removed by *belladonna*, as this remedy has been called an anti-arthritic from conjecture only. In those cases only where an erysipelatous inflammation is conjoined with the topical gouty affection, will we sometimes find *belladonna* indicated, if the concomitant symptoms call for its application. On the other hand, it is much more frequently applicable in diseases which arise after the rapid disappearance of the gout in the so-termed metastases; still more frequently, however, in *atonic* gout, so called, or in the premonitions of a gouty attack, which consist chiefly in disturbances of the functions of the abdominal organs. *Belladonna* deserves accurate consideration in some kinds of *ischias*, which, if alternated with some other proper curative, it frequently overcomes without the aid of an antipsoric.

Rheumatism. Rheumatic pains and fevers are often so constituted that *belladonna* proves the most effectual remedy. It is to be recommended in a so-termed *inflammatio rheumatico-phlegmonosa*, often immediately from the commencement, but still more if the accompanying synochal fever has been diminished by the prior exhibition of one or two doses of *aconite*, and nothing remains except the topical rheumatic affection. In rheumatic fevers, with violent, pulsating pains in the head, and throbbing of arteries of the head, sometimes conjoined with nausea, swelling of the muscles of the throat and nape, which pain violently on the slightest motion of any part of the body, with an affection of the knee-joint, unaccompanied by swelling, so that the

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patient is obliged to keep the knee flexed, by which every motion is constrained, as it aggravates the pain to an insupportable degree and forces the patient to cry out, succumbs to a small dose of *belladonna*, which produces rapid improvement without the aid of any other remedy.

TOOTHACHE. It proves very serviceable in some kinds of toothache which are of a rheumatic character, namely, in married females, and in the female sex generally. Some kinds of violent, lancinating pains, affecting the inferior extremities, and sometimes the superior also, which occur but seldom, are likewise removed by it.

PROSOPALGIA FOTHERGILLI. The homœopathist, who has repeated opportunities of treating this affection, will not willingly dispense with this curative; although it is not the only specific, still it is a very serviceable intercurrent remedy, from which I have derived better results than from any of the antipsoric class. Its application depends upon the presence of the following symptoms: the pains recur periodically several times daily, continue for a half or full hour, and then merely remit; if the attack becomes again violent, the patient remarks, a few moments previous, a violent itching and burning in the region of the infra orbital nerve; if he scratches this part, the supervention of the violent pain is accelerated; the pain is for the most part a violent, lancinating, or sometimes rending, stinging, which, when the attack is at its height, affects all the neighbouring parts on the diseased side, and almost produces distraction: trismus is often united with it. The smallest

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dose of *belladonna* should here be exhibited, and no other remedy given, or this repeated for from twelve to sixteen days.

Vertigo. This is frequently a very harassing complaint, which is often difficult to cure; it appears entirely isolated, without any concomitant phenomena, where it is an uncomplicated primary affection. In this disease we can do much with *belladonna*, if we do not permit ourselves to be deceived by the assurances of our patients, and resting upon these, overlook symptoms, which, accurately noted, would indicate an entire different curative. We will be far more certain in our selection of a remedy, and always first think of *belladonna*, if the vertigo depends upon congestion to the head, and is often relieved by epistaxis, and appears to be less violent when in the open air. In some kinds of vertigo, with headache, *belladonna* proves serviceable, namely, where the cephalalgia appears as a heavy, pressing sensation, extending from the middle of the head towards the temples, and from above the nose towards the forehead, where the pain consists of a pressing, dissevering, undulating, waving feeling. The headache, to which this remedy is adapted, is completely characterized by the following symptoms: rendered worse by the slightest motion of the body, particularly by moving the eyes; the impinging of light upon the eyes; by every noise; by individuals walking in the sick room; it is aggravated by every slight external concussion, and is conjoined, not merely with perceptible, but absolutely audible pulsations of all of the arteries.

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Scrofula. There is no disease of more frequent occurrence in childhood than scrofula—there is none which is so variously constituted in its full developement; it acts so perniciously upon the economy internally, and the organization of man, that the traces of it are often not fully obliterated, even in advanced life. For the last twenty years, this disease appears to have increased, at least this is the case with violent glandular affections, which are now of such frequent occurrence, and which previously were not so much known. When I think upon my own childhood, when such a number of children with myself suffered from *tinea capitis*, and how we crawled about with this for years, it does not appear strange to me, as this disease is constantly becoming less frequent, and consequently this critical deposit of nature is lacking, that it assumes a different character in the form of glandular affections. Tinea capitis is merely a symptom of a general scrofulous affection, but a very beneficial derivative, vicarious of the general disease, and is, therefore, even looked upon by the laity as a very healthful appearance. At that time, this disease, together with natural small-pox, scarlatina, dysenteries, were the prevailing diseases, which have now made way for the general glandular affections, scarlet rash, or complications of this disease with scarlet fever, varioloid, cramp, &c., from all of which, as far as I can recollect, but little was heard in my youthful days. But to return to the scrofula, we must first remark, that *belladonna* may be applied, not merely in indurated glands of the throat, but in other parts of the

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body; it is likewise applicable where the scrofula is more diffused, and the whole organism has become affected. We can frequently see no symptoms of scrofula in the child, and still the *dispositio scrophulosa* exists, if the child, at the time it should begin to walk alone, cannot be brought to *use its limbs*, notwithstanding all the care taken to teach it, and cannot learn to walk from an apparent weakness of the bones or nerves. In these cases, a single dose of *belladonna* produces the most brilliant effects, and often effects, in a few days, what the most celebrated baths and strengthening lotions could not in many weeks.

Belladonna always deserves consideration if incontinentia urinæ, conjoined with this disease, attracts the attention of the medical attendant; if *cina*, perhaps, is not found better adapted, as I have several times observed. In incontinence of urine in adults, *belladonna* is sometimes indicated when the concomitant symptoms likewise indicate it; in these cases, the south pole of the magnet, or some proper curative, may likewise be indicated.

Otorrhœa. Purulent discharges from the ear is a very harassing symptom in scrofulous subjects, which is of frequent occurrence. The discharge is offensive, and when it continues for a long time, disposes to *deafness*. As *belladonna* proves of essential service in scrofula generally, it does not gainsay its good effects where this symptom exists, particularly when the child begins to cry, carries its hand to the ears, rubs and scratches, and when it is awaked from sleep at

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night by this pain. After an epidemic scarlet rash, I observed this otorrhœa in several subjects who had passed through the disease, and who had formerly suffered from suppuration of the glands of the neck, and here I cured this disease with a single dose of *belladonna*. In the *stadium opportunitatis*, and *prodromorum*, which precedes scrofula, there are many symptoms which are covered by *belladonna*.

INDURATED AND SWOLLEN CERVICAL GLANDS, which frequently pass into suppuration, are much relieved by this remedy: tumefied glands in the axilla and inguinal region, or even in the abdomen, where there is distension and tension of this part, stools sometimes hard and again soft, relaxation of the muscles offer no contra-indication to its application. This remedy alone is not able to overcome the morbid symptoms which, indeed, could hardly be expected from one remedy, where a disease is so extended; it requires, to effect a perfect cure, several other curatives, namely, those whose effects continue for a long time. These external glandular affections sometimes disappear suddenly, and a similar morbid state forms in the lungs, which is not unlike phthisis, and is accompanied by all of the symptoms of this complaint, even with hectic fever; this frequently succumbs to a single dose of this remedy.

SCHIRROUS INDURATIONS. Its power in schirrous indurations of all kinds, of the breasts, lips, uterus, &c., is known to every one who has made any trials with it in these affections. It is given with great effect in *carci-*

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noma uteri; we do not merely produce alleviation of the pains, but, with the aid of other proper remedies, it even retards considerably the rapid progress of this destructive disease. It is particularly indicated in this affection, when that peculiar bearing down pain, which so admirably indicates *belladonna*, a burning pain in the sexual organs internally, and a very offensive ichorous bloody discharge exists.

Dysentery. Although *mercurius corrosivus* is known as a specific in autumnal dysenteries, still we are not able to cure every variety with it alone; and we are often obliged, in the treatment of this disease, to have recourse to other known curatives, in order to effect a complete cure. *Belladonna* deserves to be mentioned among these, and proves very effectual in those varieties which are termed *nervous*. It may likewise be applied in *inflammatory* dysentery, if there is a complete correspondence of the symptoms of the disease with those which the remedy produces in the healthy.

In the use of *belladonna*, it is an important circumstance, that in acute diseases it excites sleep more readily than any other remedy, when properly selected; this is very apparent in children; on the contrary, where it is not rightly selected, it produces sleeplessness and great restlessness; on this depends its happy influence in *morbid sleepiness during the day and evening*, and in *nocturnal sleeplessness*.

Cachexies. Of all diseases, cachexies, arising from the *misuse of powerful remedies*, are the most difficult to treat, particularly the mercurial cachexy, that pro-

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duced by opium and valerian. The secondary effects of these remedies are, in such cases, generally united with the natural morbid affection, awaken the psoric cachexy, previously latent in the system, and thereby produce a disease which frequently obstinately resists all of our curative efforts. The physician, notwithstanding this, dare not refuse to treat such patients, and it is his duty to make use of every effort, and at least alleviate the distressing state of these unfortunates, martyrs upon the ruthless shrine of allopathy. In such cases, which, according to my opinion, are not to be treated by antipsorics, as other complaints are produced by these, at least at the beginning of the treatment, *belladonna* is likewise an admirable remedy, which lessens, and, indeed, frequently overcomes, the deeply rooted secondary effects of the remedies already specified. We find it beneficial in indurated glands which are ulcerated, accompanied by boring, gnawing pains from the effects of mercury over-stimulating the lymphatic system; and likewise in paralytic complaints, arising from mercurial disease. It is not less applicable in complaints arising from the abuse of *valerian*, particularly in affections of the head and eyes remaining after its use, and some diseases of the senses. The secondary effects of opium, united with the natural disease, are the most obstinate; they consist chiefly in loss of the excitability, and in deficient irritability and sensibility, in which *belladonna* produces in part palliation only, but also in part a radical cure.

Mental diseases. Finally, we have to treat of

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mental diseases in which *belladonna* is applied with the best results, as it removes almost magically many of these affections without the aid of antipsorics. In some kinds of *melancholia* it proves beneficial; in those, namely, which depend upon a morbid state of the abdominal organs, which is manifest at particular times by spasms of the organs of deglutition, vesical spasms, enuresis, gastric states, &c. It is applicable in melancholia from love, not only when the patient is mentally affected by the presence of the loved one, but likewise where sexual desire exists concomitantly, and which, in males, appears as *satyriasis*—in females, as a kind of nymphomania. The existing symptoms decide for this or some other remedy. *Nostalgia*, by continuing for a long time, may become changed into *melancholia*, which likewise finds a curative in *belladonna*; although the primary effect of it is to suppress past recollections, it is this property which often enables it to restore *impaired memory* to its former state. It very often proves an effectual curative in the morbid melancholy which sometimes appears in pregnant females during or after confinement, which depends upon disturbances in the sexual system.

INSANITY. This remedy is much more frequently applicable in this disease than in *melancholia*, as, in its primary effects, it produces sudden changes in the conceptions and ideas, and, at the same time, a great power in correcting the morbid fancies and false pictures into realities, which are so evident in this kind of dementia, and which characterize it. There is no remedy among

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whose symptoms we find such sudden changes from the utmost merriness to the deepest despondency, and from the most vivid garrulousness to the most profound quietude, which sudden changes are quite characteristic of the disease under consideration. We see but little or no connection in the morbid fancies which *belladonna* elicits, it is so likewise with the gesticulations and actions, and it is owing to this property that it produces such good effects in those morbid mental disturbances, particularly when in these affections there predominates a dislike and displeasure with one's self—a degree of consciousness of one's unfortunate position.

We often find indications for the exhibition of *belladonna* in *madness*, *fury*, *frenzy*, where insanity, with exaltation of the sensorial functions, and an unusual degree of muscular strength, exists. I need not mention, that several other remedies rank with it, as well in these mental affections as in those previously described. We often find these particular states existent during phrenitis, and in some kinds of *febris nervosa versatilis*, in both of which diseases, as already mentioned, this remedy is the specific curative.

Imbecility. I have yet to mention *imbecility;* and where *belladonna* is to be exhibited as a curative, would direct particular attention to those cases which have appeared after the disappearance of an acute exanthematous affection, after the sudden disappearance of erysipelas, or where it arises after encephalitis, typhus, apoplexy, in which *belladonna* would have been the best remedy to exhibit for the original complaints.

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NUX VOMICA.

HOMŒOPATHY makes use of *nux vomica* only in the form of a tincture, the mode of preparing which has been clearly laid down in another place.*

The effects of this remedy upon the human organism continues for fifteen days; the smaller and most minute doses act from eight to twelve days.

How far the statements of writers upon materia medica are true, relative to the diseases in which this substance proves curative, the special consideration of diseases in which it is applied, homœopathically, as laid down in the following pages, will demonstrate, from which may be deduced that allopathy could only cure diseases in which it applied it (generally empirically) on the homœopathic principle.

The rich treasure of symptoms which are sufficiently well known to every experienced homœopathist, through Hahnemann's Materia Medica, confirms the supposition, made in another place, that this is a polycrest remedy, which is, homœopathically, adapted to a large number of morbid affections.

* Hahnemann's Materia Medica. Caspari's Dispensatory. See, also, Jahr's Pharmacopœia, published by J. Dobson, Philadelphia, 1842.

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Pulsatilla and *ignatia* stand in close relationship to *nux vomica ; chamomilla* may also be enumerated, as Hartlaub has plainly shown, in his comparison and characteristics of various medicaments.*

Every powerful medicament exhibits individual peculiarities ; the accurate consideration of which, often first decides the homœopathist to administer the one or the other remedy in disease ; on which account we must direct our attention to this fact, in order to cure successfully. *Nux vomica* likewise possesses these peculiarities, which Hahnemann has shown in his prefatory remarks to this remedy. The various morbid states in which I found this remedy applicable, have gradually given rise to the settled conviction, that the following hints deserve careful consideration.

The homœopathic physician is frequently obliged to treat patients, with whom the daily use of *coffee*, *wine* or *alcohol*, is a confirmed habit. The treatment of such cases is always attended with difficulty, for notwithstanding the most solemn promises of abstinence from these injurious substances, our patients but seldom keep their word ; and with just such patients, *nux* is the specific curative. I therefore here remark to beginners in homœopathy, that they should never be hasty with a favourable prognosis in such cases, because this can never be formed with certainty. If patients of this kind solicit my advice, if they persist in not abstaining, I allow them a few cups of weak *coffee*, a glass of *wine* ; or to those who use ***alcohol***, a glass of pure *whiskey* or *rum* ; and administer a stronger dose of this remedy, than appears to be adapted to the patient under ordinary circumstances : notwith-

* Archives. Vol. IV., Part 1.

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standing this, we will but seldom see the effects of the remedy continue at the extent, longer than three or four days.

In advanced life, and with individuals that have been much habituated to stimulating and spirituous drinks, it is not advisable to deprive them immediately of all these stimulants: we should permit the change to be gradual.

In both acute and chronic diseases, which are now of such frequent occurrence, it is often applicable; it is better adapted to the male than the female sex; which idea is justified by the mental symptoms; it is more adapted to the sanguine choleric, than to the phlegmatic temperament. We must by no means conclude from this, that the female sex in which in general softness and gentleness is more predominant than in males, is excluded from the sphere of action of this curative! The female organism is obnoxious to a vast number of both acute and chronic diseases, which when all circumstances requiring it exist, can be overcome by our remedy; this experience has repeatedly taught me. The physician should always pay attention to the temperament of his patient, which when adapted to the peculiar character of *nux*, offers the most certain guide for its administration. In the opposite case, however, let the symptoms correspond ever so well with those of *nux*, we should not expect to experience a favourable result from its exhibition. A proof how accurately the physician should note the psychical condition of his patient.

We often find patients formerly of a zealous, fierce, fiery, irritable disposition, who by long years of suffering, have become so depressed, that no trace of their former state exists, but have become changed into a mild, gentle,

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almost tearful disposition, which at the first glance seems to offer a contra indication to the application of *nux*; but a closer examination of the previous state of health of the patient, does not forbid its exhibition, which is fully confirmed by its beneficial effects; for as improvement occurs, the former disposition gradually becomes developed; one of the most certain proofs of the cure of the disease.

The majority of the symptoms of *nux vomica*, are developed early in the morning and after meals. In individuals of studious habits, where this remedy is indicated, mental labour must be avoided immediately after taking it, so that the operation of the remedy may not be disturbed. In chronic diseases, when the patient is able to use his limbs fully, or if this be not the case where he may enjoy carriage exercise in the open air without injury, it aids very much the more intensive effects of this remedy.* Where however it is not allowable, we should at least permit fresh air to enter the patient's apartment by opening the window. Chronic diseases when treated with this remedy, require a stricter adherence to the rule—avoid mental exertion than acute forms of disease, as the latter by the more acute and violent seizure of the nervous system; even at the moment that the medicinal power acts upon the nerves, which is adapted to receive a beneficial effect from it, so that the mental functions of the patient do not interrupt the dynamic power of the drug, as the patient usually in

* I opine that fresh air, where allowable, aids the effects of all remedies homœopathically applicable; at least moderate and proper exercise in the open air is always prescribed by me to all patients of a chronic character, unless I fear some directly bad result.

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such cases, falls into a refreshing slumber, from which he awakes with commencing convalescence. With those individuals, on the other hand, in whom the long continuance of disease has produced for the most part a loss of power of excitation of the nervous system to such irritants, and in whom susceptibility of impression must first be assured by the influence of medicine, we frequently do not have this beneficial crisis, sleep, after the exhibition of homœopathic remedies. This remark once based on experience, is not alone worthy of attention, in the application of *nux vomica ;* but with all curatives, and more especially those which produce less powerful action upon the organism.

In chronic diseases, we should not be too anxious to exhibit a large dose of *nux vomica*, as it develops its effects in such diseases very slowly, and improvement often does not set in until the third or fourth day. And just for this reason, we should be very careful not to exhibit another remedy, before we have fully determined whether the symptoms occurring subsequent to the exhibition of *nux*, are due to it, or whether they are entirely new phenomena, which have not previously existed, and have been induced by the application of an improper remedy. In the first case, we must await the flagging improvement: in the latter exhibit a remedy better adapted to the existing morbid state.

I cannot too strongly insist upon great discretion, in regard to the doses of this curative when exhibited in acute affections, for when wrongly applied, and in very sensitive subjects, it readily develops collateral effects, which require an antidote to remove, and without laying stress upon the injury produced by this, it occasions an

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unnecessary prolongation of the disease. The symptoms which *nux vomica* produces, are often aggravated by motion, or are first elicited by it. In studious individuals, symptoms which have originated from a sedentary life, are often improved by exercise.

In some cases where *nux* appears to be very well indicated, no effect is produced by it either in the weaker or more powerful doses: this is most frequently the case in individuals who are too much addicted to alcoholic stimuli. I do not wish to have this conjecture looked upon as a settled truth; but leave it to be confirmed by other observations on this subject.

Thus much in general: the special application of this valuable curative, as far as lies in my power, is the design of these pages. I shall first speak of the acute, and then of the chronic states in which it is applicable, and introduce in their proper places, those morbid phenomena, which cannot properly be dignified with any particular name.

- FEBRILE AFFECTIONS. Febrile diseases are undoubtedly among the most difficult to treat, and particularly those which we designate by the name *fever*; without connecting any other idea with it, which might denote a prominent affection in some organ, by which the choice of a remedy is rendered far less difficult. Those diseases therefore, which offer only general febrile symptoms, as chill, sweat, irregular pulse, headache, &c., require the particular attention of the medical attendant. It is not less difficult to direct to the proper homœopathic remedy, in certain forms of fever, as described in pathological writings; as they cannot at all be considered as fixed diseases, and again form complications with other

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diseases: the peculiar character of the fever of which they form a subdivision, is so much confused, that the primary form is not readily distinguished. An essential advantage in the diagnosis of fevers, is met with in their systematic division, into *synocha*, *synochus* and *typhus*, by which is signified a morbid affection, either of the irritable, reproductive, or sensorial systems. This is an advantage in theory, and the young practitioner finds in this a fixed point, proceeding from which he may systematize his knowledge. This however does not hold good in practice; for at the sick bed, the physician finds fever so differently constituted from their theoretical arrangement, that it is impossible for him, without injury, to bring them under any fixed heads: without inattention to the more minute circumstances, which might be productive of injurious results in practice.

Fixed and settled causes certainly do not exist in the one or the other forms of febrile disease; and if this were really the case, they are often so transitory that the patient but seldom knows how to specify them; while the physician always remains dubious under what particular head to place them. Is it then possible where such great aberrations in the human organism exist, whereby naturally aberrations of phenomena must be produced, to suppose a fixed mode of treatment depending upon invariable laws in this or the other form of disease? With difficulty indeed! I very well know that it may be advanced that the practitioner must himself discover these differences, and thereon base his curative efforts. Why is it then that we read in therapeutic manuals such positive assertions? We there find for instance "**that uncomplicated intermittents are the only cases in which**

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cinchona is applicable! *Quotidiana* require small doses, *tertiana* larger, and *quartana* still greater." If we judge from this, the febrile type makes no difference, and *peruvian bark* cures all three varieties. But still it is a well known fact, notwithstanding this fixed assurance, that this remedy, whether applied in large or small doses, is frequently unable to cure this fever, and the physician is obliged to have recourse to some other surrogate in order perhaps to attain his end. I admit that bark sometimes, even in large doses, cures one or the other forms of uncomplicated intermittents; far more frequently however, it only suppresses them, and in lieu thereof, produces metastases; which however cannot be looked upon as a cure of the disease previously existing. These changes are not of unfrequent occurrence: firstly, because *china* is not always the proper curative; and secondly, even where it is adapted, too large doses of this powerful medicament must produce morbific states in other organs, which arrests the weaker disease previously present. Who does not here recollect the so-called ague cake or the jaundiced state with which poor sufferers are harassed for years. Another not less striking phenomenon after the suppression of this fever by *china* is the anasarcous state of the whole body, with a yellowish teint, and the strange torpidity of mind, previously active and vivid.

Several other cachexies arising from the use of *cinchona* in intermittents might be here mentioned, of which I however will select one, and describe it more in detail. A young man of powerful constitution, and otherwise healthy, was attacked early in June of the previous year with *Febris interm. tertiana*, which always appeared

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with violent chill, which continued one hour and a half. It was succeeded by heat, and then perspiration, and obliged him to keep his bed during the greater part of the day. The constant use of bark caused the fever to disappear in about three weeks, and the patient rejoiced at his recovery, and omitted the medicine at the prescribed time, although he still noticed a sallowness of complexion, and some debility remaining. In fourteen days, after some slight mental emotion, the fever recurred, but he was relieved by a small quantity of pulverised *cinchona*. The disease continued to recur regularly every fourteen days. If he became at all excited, it appeared earlier, and was always overcome by the same powder. Vexed to find that this treatment only relieved his fever for a short time, but did not completely cure it, he consulted me in the beginning of November, on the day on which the fever had previously supervened. His state was as follows :—

Drawing rending pains in the upper extremities and head, harassed the patient on the days in which he was free from fever, while the lower extremities were attacked with such a feeling of weight that he could hardly move them. The pains were more violent and conjoined with sensitive flying stitches in the head, and the bones of the extremities, as soon as the chill appeared (about 10 o'clock, A. M.,) with which was conjoined gaping and stretching of the extremities so violent that he was afraid of fracturing or dislocating his limbs. This state gradually became aggravated and passed into a violent chill, with chattering of the teeth in which the previous pains were slowly merged. The cold stage continued from a quarter of an hour to an hour and a quarter : he was

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then so much debilitated that he fell asleep for half an hour, and was first awakened by the burning heat which supervened while he was asleep, and was conjoined with profuse perspiration. This continued until late in the evening. The thirst was not great. After the cessation of fever, sleep supervened, which was disturbed during the whole night by anxious, frightful dreams.

During the asphyxia, the patient complained of drawing, stinging, tensive pains over the whole breast and on the vertex: painful soreness in the cervical and dorsal vertebræ, particularly when sitting: constant tension and slight torminal, griping pains, which latter recurred periodically. He had but little appetite, and was seized with gastric pressure after every meal, which was accompanied by the feeling as if hard bodies were in the stomach. Alvine evacuations occurred every three or four days, and the inactivity of the intestines was so great that he could only void the fæces by the greatest exertions with the abdominal muscles. The desire to go to stool he excited by melting a piece of butter in very strong coffee, and drinking it. The debility was so excessive that he could only work about half an hour, and was then obliged to rest for as long a period. His appearance was sallow, and his mind sad and desponding. The evident debilitated state of the abdomen which I deemed expedient to first overcome, appeared to indicate *veratrum album* more than any other curative, and this I administered in the twelfth dilution, immediately after the cessation of the fever.

On the second day a natural stool occurred without the previous exertion, and from this time his alvine evacuations were regular; the appetite improved, the

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pains in the stomach disappeared, the sleep was quieter, and the debility diminished. The second febrile paroxysm which occurred while under my treatment, was as violent as he had experienced at the commencement of the fever: I nevertheless waited for a third attack, which was not near so intense as the preceding. Before the supervention of the fever, the dragging rending pains in the upper extremities and head were much more violent: the flying stitches were more aggravated and conjoined with gaping, and stretching of the limbs, with a cracking noise. It is characteristic of *arsenic* that another symptom becomes united to the existing painful paroxysm, and in this case, *fever;* and therefore no remedy was better indicated than this. I gave *arsenic* 30 after the third paroxysm, and instead of appearing at ten o'clock on the following, a slight coldness supervened with some gaping and stretching, continuing half an hour, which was not succeeded by heat. The patient now remained free from *fever*, and was only affected with some dragging pains in the humerus, which continued for some time, and which in the course of ten days, were entirely overcome by a small dose of *ipecacuanha*.

This case proves that *cinchona* cannot always cure an uncomplicated intermittent, (which was the form of this disease at the commencement,) it partly also instances how readily the *cinchona cachexy* may be induced in an otherwise healthy constitution, by the improper application of bark, and this may become complicated with the existing malady. Finally, I instanced it to show how difficult it is to specify any specific remedy in any form of disease mentioned by pathologists as fixed. When I undertook the treatment of this case, it was still *febris*

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intermittens tertiana, conjoined with a gastro-bilious state, the origin of which, had another, an allœopathist, been called, would hardly have been attributed to the abuse of bark, and he would have believed he could remove such a state by the exhibition of *cathartics* and *emetics*, rather than by antidotes to *cinchona*, which were here indicated.

According to my experience, *nux vomica* is better adapted to those febrile forms, which belong *in genere* with *synochus* and *typhus*, where the reproductive and sensorial systems are chiefly affected, and where the synochal character predominates. It is an admirable remedy in *gastric fevers* and *complaints*, which numerous recorded cures demonstrate.* The disease may frequently be arrested in *stadium prodromorum* in the course of twenty-four hours, when the physician is timely called. The symptoms of a confirmed gastric state and fever in many cases appear so characteristic of *nux vomica* that the physician, with an accurate knowledge of the symptoms of this remedy, cannot be at all doubtful. *Nux* is nevertheless never adapted where increased alvine evacuations or diarrhœa is conjoined therewith. *Nausea*, vomiting, vertigo, pains in the head, in the forehead, or semi-lateral headache, constipation, abdominal spasms in general, but particularly those of the stomach; griping and borborygmy in the umbilical region, &c., where there are other symptoms indicating it, afford good criteria for the selection of this curative, which is still more confirmed where these symptoms attack a robust, powerful, plethoric constitution.

The symptoms of some varieties of *bilious fever*, and bilious complaints, are often such that this remedy proves

* Vid. Archiv. III. I. p. 89.—III. p. 53.—VI. 73.

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curative, particularly if a chronic, gastric, or hepatic affection unknown to the patient has existed, or where after repeated fits of anger, these symptoms appear, and will not again yield to the specific remedy exhibited, if, perhaps, *pulsatilla*, *ignat*. *mercur*. are not better indicated by the existing symptoms. A yellow teint, particularly around the nose and mouth : a frequent concomitant of this state often indicates the remedy.

ICTERIC COMPLAINTS, which I treated, were in several instances so constituted that they could be overcome by this remedy ; but still *china*, *mercur*. and *chamomilla* are better indicated in the majority of these cases. The bilious complaints which I have mentioned, often by neglect, or injudicious treatment, occasion a so-termed *colica biliosa*, (*bilious colic ;*) and from what has been said, it follows that *nux* must prove beneficial in such cases.

By the long continuance of such gastric and bilious states, the ganglionic system gradually becomes affected in a greater or less degree, the result of which is, that nervous symptoms become complicated therewith, which we may then designate by the compound name of *febris gastrico et biliosa nervosa*. This complicated form of nervous fever, according to my views, often finds a specific in our remedy.

Nux vomica is not alone applicable in nervous fevers, which have been preceded by some morbid abdominal states, or where this complication exists, but also in uncomplicated nervous fevers which assumed this form from their commencement. It appears to act most happily in those varieties where deficiency of innervation predominates, the patient is insensible to all ex-

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ternal impressions, and cannot be aroused from his soporose state, a state which we designate by the name *febris nervosa stupida*. In such cases, where vitality is so much depressed, it is sometimes very proper, if the symptoms will admit of it, to administer a small dose of *phosphoric acid*, prior to the exhibition of the *nux vomica*, after which, the latter acts more energetically upon the diseased organism. We should be careful in such dangerous cases not to administer another remedy too soon, if the effect is not soon manifest. The struggle between the vital power and the medicinal is, in such cases, slowly developed, and continues for a long time in the organism internally, before the curative effects of the remedy are externally evident. A sign which is favorable to the remedy exhibited is, when the patient remains for several hours as he was prior to its administration, and the slight change, which first occurs long afterwards, is perceptible only to the careful, discriminating, and observing glance of the physician.

Febrile affections of children, during dentition, are so differently constituted that we can merely mention them under the name of *dental fever*, (Zahnfieber,) but still among the several hundreds of these cases which I have treated, there were some which had a common type, and were overcome by this curative. We should classify those diseases, which appear about the dental period in children, under the general names of dental fever, or diseases arising from dentition, as the treatment, on account of the common cause, must be rendered more difficult. They are nothing more than processes of development of the infantile age, which are analogous to other developments of the organism. If we view these states in this

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light, without permitting ourselves to be led astray by the conjectural causes, we will be able to treat the diseases of childhood with far more fortunate results.

If dental irritation, however, is really the cause of the disease, the physician must not at all direct his attention to this, for he cannot remove it; and still we very often cure, with a single remedy, the complaints arising from dental irritation. In my opinion, a proof that in order to effect a fortunate cure, the previous removal of the cause is not always an essential.

The diseases of children, it is true, are only to be recognised by the eye of the physician and the remarks of the attendants; but notwithstanding this, to the homœopathic physician, each case is so individualised, that he, owing to the simple mode of life of children, can but seldom be so doubtful in his diagnosis, and in the selection of the proper curative, as is sometimes the case in the diseases of adults. And for this reason, the treatment of the diseases of childhood is not so difficult to the homœopathist as to the allœopathist, who here can only act empirically, as ætiology offers to the latter slighter hints in such cases than in adult diseases, while the former, where he cannot remove the cause, opposes a characteristic remedy to the morbid symptoms in their totality, and pays no attention to unknown causes.

Nux deserves a prominent place in the treatment of the diseases of children. It has often proved of great service with children previously of a lively and healthy appearance, who suddenly became peevish, and had a dull and miserable appearance, refused to run about, without being able to detect any specific cause, (in some varieties of atrophy.)

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CATARRHAL FEVER. Some kinds of catarrhal fever, either accompanied or not by coryza, are sometimes so characterised that a single dose of *nux* overcomes them in a few hours. From very many cures of this complaint, effected by our curative, I am led to suggest that it is best adapted where there exists disposition to chilliness, transient rigors, as if in the bones, passing from one part to another, which supervene *during motion* or exercise, which frequently alternates with transient flushes of heat, occur in the afternoon, and continue to grow worse. Rest by a very warm stove produces amelioration. There is frequently conjoined a raw sensation in the pharynx, which is more vivid in the morning, producing roughness of the voice, and causing the patient to hawk frequently, and exciting a hoarse cough. It is also often adopted where that form becomes united with gastric and bilious states. By long continuance, this catarrhal fever sometimes assumes a nervous character, but it then appears more as *febris lentæ*, and as such is sometimes cured by this remedy. I have, however, more frequently cured it with *rhus*, *arsenic*, &c.

The catarrhal fever which appears in an epidemic form, the so-called *influenza*, is often cured in a few days by the smallest dose of this remedy.

Nux sometimes proves curative in *catarrh* unaccompanied by fever, where there is a considerable accumulation of mucus in the nose, which produces excoriation of the nostrils, is exacerbated towards evening, is conjoined with frequent sneezings, and during the night, dry coryza, to which dryness of the mouth internally, without thirst, disturbed, restless sleep, become annexed.

In speaking of gastric and bilious disorders, I have

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mentioned that, by long continuance, they act upon the nervous plexuses of the abdomen. Now, in several forms of intermittents, there is undoubtedly excitement of these plexuses, and as *nux* produces a similar state in its primary effects, it doubtless will prove curative in some intermittents. The materia medica of homœopathy and allœopathy here concur, but the latter expresses itself too vaguely, when it is conjectured that it can only be applied with benefit and certainty in those cases where local debility of the intestinal tube predominates, with torpidity and obstructions in the abdomen, with abnormality in the functions of the abdominal nerves. Local debility of the intestinal tube is most plainly manifested by increased alvine evacuations, or diarrhœa, and where these symptoms occur during an intermittent, *nux* never proves serviceable; on the contrary, where inactivity of the tube predominates, where constipation occurs with the fever, it is particularly adapted. There are several other remedies which collate with it in these cases, *veratrum*, *belladonna*, *cocculus*, &c. Abdominal obstructions, disorders in the functions of the abdominal nerves are expressions of too general a character for us to ground any indications for the exhibitions of *nux* in intermittents. This remedy is most frequently adapted to fevers of the tertian type. Although I have cured *febris quotidiana duplex* with it, I moreover believe, that intermittents of other types may be so constituted that *nux* would be adapted; I am, nevertheless, convinced by its frequent applicability in fevers of the tertian character, that here will be found its most extended sphere of applicability. It is likewise applicable in complicated intermittents, especially in those accompanied by inordinate irritability,

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particularly of the primæ viæ, if we do not find *ignatia* or some other curative better indicated.

As this remedy produces vertigo, anxiety, chills, and in its secondary effects a peculiar immobility of all parts, or at least of the inferior extremities, and a convulsive stretching; it appears to be particularly beneficial in apoplectic intermittents. Paroxysms which arise suddenly, recur frequently, and always appear in afternoons, with vertigo, anxiety, chill, and a peculiar kind of delirium, which consists of startling, sometimes frightful visions, and excites a feeling of constriction in the stomach, where indeed febrile and nervous states are conjoined, *nux* removes easily and permanently.

It is likewise frequently adapted to dysenteric fevers without evacuations, (ohne Ruhr,) where uneasiness in all of the limbs, restlessness, anxiety, pain in the stomach and abdominal spasms exist.

Febres lentæ are often so constituted that *nux* is the specific curative, whether they appear originally as such, as the sequelæ and terminations of acute diseases, or the concomitants of some topical affection. This variation of phenomena renders it evident that of all diseases this febrile form is the least adapted to an accurate description of its symptoms, and likewise, that its special diagnosis can only be made at the bed-side of the patient. I am, therefore, content merely to direct attention to the fact that this remedy may, under proper conditions, be applicable in this disease.

INFLAMMATIONS. The cure of inflammations, homœopathically, has been very strenuously contended to be impracticable on this ground, (according to allœopathic views,) that no cure of an inflammation can be thought

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of without blood-letting. It was granted to homœopathy that it manifested its effects where the nervous system was affected, according to this decision, in chronic diseases only. If this conjecture were true, the limits of the new science would be very circumscribed, and thus considered, it would have always appeared as a mere subordinate to some other system, and never could have attained the important self-dependent position which we now see it occupy.

Even allœopathists, who have subjected homœopathy to a practical investigation, and have, from this point of view, given an opinion in regard to the limits of applicability of the new doctrine, perceive, as their experiments extend more and more, that they cannot place any definite bounds to its sphere of application, and cannot exclaim, thus far, but not beyond, does thy power extend.

They plainly perceive that their views, respecting the cause of diseases and their definitions, based upon this, must either be much altered and revised, or they must admit that homœopathy has a more extended sphere of effects than they had formerly believed or allowed.

And this really is the case. Homœopathy cures diseases whose cause, according to the ideas of pathologists, is not to be looked for in abnormal nervous excitability, but because we assume this in many, in very many diseases, we have received the name of *neuro-pathologists* from the allœopathists. Congestion, fever, and inflammations, are always merely the symptom of a symptom; the original affection, the cause of this, is to be sought for in a morbid alteration of the nervous system.

Experience daily convinces us that our opinions are not unjust, for our minute, atomic doses often effect so

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beneficial a change in the morbid phenomena, so rapidly, that it is impossible to think that it is the absorption of this little dose into the fluids which effects it, but much more readily can we conceive that the essential nervous power is affected by the drug power, (Arzneikraft,) and this diffuses itself throughout the whole nervous system. Admit, however, that our views in regard to the essence of disease, are wrong, still this does not produce any evil results, the course of nature would be the same, and experience show that thus, and not otherwise, diseases may be cured in a mild and permanent manner.

Homœopathy dispenses with blood-letting in inflammatory affections, not from dread of blood, but on the ground that the synochal state depends upon a morbid irritation of the nerves, and chiefly of the vascular nerves. Venesection does not produce any effect upon the quality, but merely a momentary change in the quantity of the inflammatory affection, which, by a rapid reparation of the abstracted blood, recurs with its previous violence. A few examples from my own practice, may, with all brevity, serve to confirm what is here stated.

A wool worker was seized with stitching pains in the chest, increased by inspiration. He ascribed this complaint to a cold, and treated himself for one day with sudorifics, by which he hoped to overcome the affection. But his disease increased, and the next day I was called to attend him. I found him labouring under violent pleurisy, characterised by very sensitive stitches in the whole lower part of the chest, particularly upon the left side, which made his respiration short, and attended by the most violent pains; and every respiration was accompanied by a short dry cough, which produced aggra-

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vation of the pains. Pulse very quick and hard; burning heat over the whole body, with red face; great thirst, debility: headache increased by the incessant cough: inappetence: alvine evacuation absent: thin dark coloured: sleepless.

I ordered a venesection, and the *apparatus antiphlogisticus*. Soon after the bleeding, improvement: in the evening aggravation of the pains, which the following morning, had attained their former violence. Another bleeding likewise afforded great relief; towards evening the symptoms were again aggravated; the application of ten leeches afforded relief, and a short respite resulted: after midnight, the disease attained its former violence; and on my visiting him early in the morning of the third day, the patient was almost beside himself with pain and anxiety. As I saw nothing but temporary relief from this allœopathic treatment, I was fearful of weakening my patient by further loss of blood. A small dose of *scilla maritima*, administered on the homœopathic principle, allayed the whole disease in twenty-four hours; though the debility produced by the loss of blood, was not fully overcome under the exhibition of appropriate remedies, until eight days had elapsed.

A second subject, nineteen years of age, plethoric and of a strong constitution, who had frequently suffered from epistaxis, and slight asthmatic attacks, became suddenly sick with pneumonic symptoms, which appeared as follows: he must lie with the upper part of the body elevated, in order to breathe; respiration, which is short and quick, was accompanied by dull stitches in the parieties and middle of the thorax; constant cough, with which after some time, a morbid expectoration mixed

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with streaks of blood is thrown off; the face is puffed any of a vivid redness; epistaxis occasionally, without any relief; burning dry heat, great thirst; urine of a bright red colour; stool absent. This was so evidently a case of *pneumonia hypersthenica*, that in accordance with the certain assurances in the therapeutic manuals, respecting this disease, I was fully confident that I should overcome it, and accordingly immediately ordered ten ounces of blood to be taken; and an oleaginous emulsion with nitre. The patient felt better in the evening: the next morning, the oppression at the chest was exacerbated, and a very profuse epistaxis, produced no relief. The hypersthenic character still continued, and nine leeches were applied during the morning, and in consequence of the neglect of the surgeon, they continued to ooze until late in the afternoon: this powerful antiphlogistic treatment proved of little avail, for on the third day a hæmorrhagia pulmonum supervened, and after such an enormous loss of blood, I felt more certain of the loss of my patient—as the pneumonic state still continued, and symptoms of depletion supervened. If death did not result, still the frequent paroxysms of syncope—the supervening nervous symptoms, such as: moving the lips as if about to speak; carpology and subultus; the vivid redness of the tongue plainly denoted, that this was the transition point, where the disease threatened to terminate in a *pneumonia nervosa*. Treated allœopathically, the patient would indubitably be lost, while a cure was still possible by homœopathic means—as the result proved. A few doses of *china*, (administered during eight days,) recruited the patient so far, that he could resume his business in fourteen days.

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Such cases occur to all allœopathic practitioners, and nevertheless allœopathy assumes that venesection and leeches are the most indispensable palliatives and curatives in inflammatory diseases. But I ask, after many trials, myself convinced to the contrary, admitting the absolute necessity of these measures in acute disease—whether blood-letting saves all patients labouring under acute diseases. The unprejudiced physician must answer this in the negative; and if he would not admit that the inflammation caused death, he nevertheless dare not deny that the sequelæ had done it, which would not have supervened, if blood-letting had not previously been premised. Therefore, as long as it cannot be demonstrated that venesection without exception, is the *only* salvation in important inflammatory diseases—so long should the allœopathists permit us to treat this class of disease according to our own views, and not charge us with every case whose result is not fortunate.

OPHTHALMIA CATARRHALIS. The symptoms of this complaint, are redness of the margins of the eye-lids, particularly in the canthi; a sensation of burning, photophobia, weeping of the eyes; exacerbation of the complaint in the evening, which is much increased by bright light; morbid secretion of the meibomean glands; injection of the conjunctiva; the symptoms of catarrh with and without fever. All of the symptoms here given, are found repeated amid the eye symptoms of *nux*, on which account, this class of inflammations are often cured by it. We cannot look upon it as a specific in this disease, as *catarrhal ophthalmia* does not appear as a fixed and unchanging disease, always characterized by the same symptoms; but frequently becomes conjoined with other

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existing ophthalmic difficulties, or other complaints become annexed to it, to which *nux* is not at all adapted.

The causes of this disease are most generally the same. Damp, cold air, is the chief exciting cause, and this is the reason why the disease most frequently appears in the spring and autumn; the dry dust in summer also seems to excite it.

Sequelæ, under judicious homœopathic treatment, cannot occur; but still such cases frequently come under our notice after previous allœopathic treatment. The great sensibility of the eye and eye-lids, which remains; the redness and injection of these parts after a slight atmospheric change, are often relieved by this curative.

OPHTHALMIA RHEUMATICA. This disease comes likewise within the sphere of our remedy, particularly in the first stage, where the symptoms belong most properly to uncomplicated rheumatic ophthalmia. The symptoms of the second stage, are but seldom manifested as uncomplicated phenomena of this disease, and are sometimes conjoined with those of a gouty or of a scrofulous nature. This complication deserves particular consideration; as by this, a peculiar disease is originated, against which this remedy cannot unconditionally be applied. It is often a very proper intercurrent remedy in the complaint under consideration. I have repeatedly removed a remaining painless reddening of the eye-ball, with *nux vomica*, after the cure of the chief malady had been accomplished.

OPHTHALMIA ARTHRITICA. This disease may be recognised by the fact that it appears conjointly with gouty complaints, or after their sudden disappearance. It is characterised by dark redness of the ophthalmic

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arteries, stinging pressure, photophobia, and lachrymation. Its protean forms render it evident that *nux vomica* cannot be the only remedy. I believe that this remedy is capable of accomplishing most in those cases which writers on ophthalmic diseases designate by the names: *blepharroblenorrhœa* and *ophthalmitis*. At least the symptoms mentioned under these heads, are for the most part, to be found among those of *nux*. In both of these diseases however, the remedy would only be indicated at the commencement, and certainly not when it had attained any considerable degree of intensity.

OPHTHALMIA SCROPHULOSA, is one of the most frequent diseases of childhood, particularly in Leipsic,* were but few children can be found, who are entirely free from a scrofulous taint. Although the cure of this proceeds slowly, both under homœopathic and allœopathic treatment, I still think I can maintain that patients afflicted with this disease, can more readily await the completion of the cure under homœopathic treatment, than by the latter; first, because they are not worried with bad tasted drugs; and second, because they—despite the long continuance of the treatment—always notice much more rapid improvement under our treatment, than the allœopathic. I have often been able to cure this disease, although I have but seldom undertaken the case at its commencement. The most distressiug part of this disease, where it has continued for several years, is the frequent relapses, and the conjunction of *catarrhal* and *rheumatic ophthalmia*, which however becomes less frequent and of shorter duration as the treatment of the disease progresses. That this disease does not always assume the

* In which city our author resides. TR.

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same character, is proved by the various names which have been applied to this inflammation in regard to the part affected, by which it is sufficiently evident that theré can be no specific for the affection.

This remedy is not less applicable in the milder forms of *ophthalmitis externa*, which are known by the name *taraxis* and also *ophthalmia angularis*. This disease commences with a slight pressure in the eye; the eye begins to weep and becomes red; the redness generally attacks at first only the canthi, particularly the internal. In addition to these inflammatory ophthalmic complaints, there are several other eye diseases in which it is a proper intercurrent: among them are *amaurosis*, *presbyopia*, and *myodesopia*, to which last I attach the bright spots which fly from the periphery to the central point of the eye-ball, and there disappear without impairing vision. This last disease, when it appears isolated and is not conjoined with other ophthalmic difficulties, often depends upon congestion to the head:* it frequently appears in plethoric individuals of a sanguino-choleric temperament, and disappears after the exhibition of *nux* and a proper regulation of the diet. I have never been able to effect a cure with this remedy alone in amaurotic affections, and *presbyopia*.

At the commencement of the disease, where the eyelids are more affected, where lachrymation and photophobia exist, an increased mucous secretion from the meibomean glands, by which agglutination of the palpebræ is produced, that is, where the disease approaches near to the catarrhal character, *nux* is a proper remedy; and this

* And will most generally be found in subjects of a hæmorrhoidal diathesis, which renders *nux vomica* still better adapted. Tr.

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is also the case where the disease extents to the external coats of the eye. If the inflammation extends farther, if it becomes more intense, attacks the deeper-seated parts, it is then beyond the sphere of this curative; while relapses, which usually assume the catarrhal character, are frequently cured by it. I lately treated a severe case of *scrofulous ophthalmia*, which had continued for five years, and had resisted the efforts of a number of oculists, on which account the recovery had been left to nature, and the hope of relief at the pubal age, for which it is true, the poor child would have had to wait for six or eight years, as she had only attained her ninth year. Several ulcers existed on the cornea, which were circumscribed by inflammation of a more intense character than that affecting the ball of the eye itself: some ulcers had healed and their cicatrices remained; the right eye was covered by a kind of *pannus*; the margins of the eyelids were inflamed from the commencement of the disease; photophobia and lachrymation were very considerable, particularly early in the morning, and at night by candle light. I was four months in completing the cure, during which time the pannus-like difficulty of the right eye entirely disappeared, and the cicatrices of the ulcers which had healed were manifested by bright spots only. In this case *nux* proved of striking service; but in addition to it, the remedies which did most towards the cure were, *bell.*, *hepar. sulph.*, *digital. cannabis.* I overcame the *diathesis scrophulosa* with *arsenicum* and *aurum.*

CONJUNCTIVITIS. I am convinced both by my own experience and the symptoms of *nux*, that it is sometimes applicable in this disease. It is generally a painless affection, and must be distinguished from *sclerotitis*, in

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which, according to its symptoms, *nux* is not applicable. *Conjunctivitis* is very similar to the remaining painless redness of the eyeball, of which I spoke under the head of *rheumatic ophthalmia.*

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA. In a case of *pleuro-pneumonia*, where the oppression of the chest on inspiring deeply was conjoined with acute, sensitive stitches on the left side of the chest, where there was a quick, hard pulse and perspiration, and the patient exhibited anxious restlessness, this remedy afforded merely seeming relief, which I could not with certainty rely upon, as the patient walked out six hours after taking the remedy, (convalescence having far advanced,) and exposed himself to raw spring air, which produced a relapse, with renewed violence, and for which, in accordance with the symptoms, *nux* could not be applied.

In pleuritic attacks this remedy will never be applicable, in pneumonic on the contrary, it deserves attention.

HEPATITIS. In both the acute and chronic forms of this disease, this remedy is often applicable, although by no means a specific. The character of this disease varies so much, that nothing but a minute and detailed sketch of the whole picture of disease can decide on the applicability of the one or the other remedy. Within a very few weeks I have had a very characteristic form of violent *hepatitis* to treat, which, according to the description of authors, affected the convex surface of the liver in contact with the diaphragm. While the patient was relating his case, a number of remedies, always varied by the symptoms, crowded upon me, which I had frequently applied in similar cases, particularly *nux, bryonia, mercurius.* But nevertheless, after a com-

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plete investigation of all the features of the case, none of them seemed so well indicated as *pulsatilla*, which indeed removed the disease without the use of any other remedy. Another variety of *hepatitis*, which my honoured friend, Dr. Franz was at the same period called upon to treat, was so constituted that *cham.* and *bell.* alone completed the cure. Cases like these requiring different remedies in a disease, which according to the views of allœopathic pathologists, are described as sufficiently fixed and characteristic, convince me still more that that physician only can be successful in practice who has a proper view and knowledge of the symptoms of homœopathic remedies.

GASTRODYNIA. That this disease frequently arises from disease of the spleen is a matter of no doubt; and in this way the latter often appears concomitantly with the former. It is not improbable in such cases that the spleen is in an inflammatory state, to which the previous existence of plethora in the abdominal vessels, or the suppression of an accustomed hæmorrhage, may readily give rise. It is not an unusual thing mid the tumult of symptoms for a *splenitis* to be overlooked; and this may be more readily excused, from the simultaneous appearance of the gastric symptoms. Such a false diagnosis would be attended with much more serious results to an allœopathist than to one of our school, as the latter, by a minute investigation of the symptoms without coming to a conclusion with regard to the nature of the disease, and then designating it by a pathological name, will but seldom fail to find the proper remedy: but to the former it cannot be a matter of indifference whether he applies the antiphlogistic or the anti-gastric treatment. From

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the symptoms of *nux vomica* we may readily perceive that *nux* produces a malady closely resembling *splenitis*, and from this it is apparent that in such cases it must be applicable, and particularly there where the existing gastric symptoms are such as to indicate it, and where the previous maladies of the patient and the temperament point to it.

If the experience that *nux vomica* is beneficial in *lithiasis* be founded in truth, we may with certainty conceive of its efficacy in some *nephritic complaints*, as patients labouring under stone have this one disposition. It becomes still more probable that it must be beneficial in such cases as suppressed hæmorrhoids are often the exciting causes, and this remedy is often indicated in the latter.

METRITIS. *Nux* is a very admirable remedy in *inflammation* of the *womb*, and its virtues in this complaint are lauded by many experienced homœopathists, and this view my own experience has confirmed. Whether the *metritis* has occurred in the unimpregnated uterus, even during gestation or after delivery, it has no influence upon the selection of a curative, and just as little influence has the particular part of the uterus which is affected. I have found, where the other symptoms indicated it, it a matter of indifference whether the fundus, the neck, the anterior or posterior surface of the uterus was inflamed ; I have removed them all with this remedy, and indeed with a single dose. The greater or less violence of the fever depends upon the degree and the extent of the inflammation ; it is characterised by chill succeeded by heat, generally frequent, tense pulse, violent thirst, &c. The pressing stinging pains in the in-

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flamed uterus are usually aggravated by external pressure, and internal examination. The sensitive pains in the sacral and lumbar regions, the constipation, or hard evacuations, conjoined with burning, stinging pains, stinging and bruise-like pain in the abdomen on motion, when coughing or sneezing; exalted temperature and swelling of the os uteri, with concomitant vaginal affection, are particularly characteristic of *nux vomica*.

ANGINOSE AFFECTIONS. Some kinds of *angina* are relieved by our remedy: among them *angina uvularis*, *tonsillaris* and *pharyngea*, which latter is most readily overcome by *nux* when it arises from gastric acridity, which is made known by eructation of a burning, caustic fluid, which frequently produces an inflammatory state of the pharynx. All three varieties of *angina* sometime appear conjoined with catarrhal complaints, which likewise indicates this remedy where the other symptoms correspond. I have frequently applied it in *angina uvularis*, particularly in slight cases, and where it was not connected with *tonsillaris*, as in this case it always appears more violently, and with symptoms requiring the exhibition of *bellad.* or *mercury*. The most certain symptoms which are to me decisive for the application of *nux* in *angina uvularis* are; stinging pains in the uvula and the submaxillary gland *during deglutition*, and besides the feeling as if a plug were in the throat, which always denotes swelling of the uvula, which indeed the inflammation of the parts confirms. I likewise found characteristic of *nux*, where the symptom of pressure in the throat as if from a swelling which was experienced only when swallowing the saliva, and not with food or drink. In *angina tonsillaris nux* is only indi-

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cated where it assumes the catarrhal character; but seldom known where it attacks scrofulous subjects. I have frequently applied it with very good effects as an intercurrent remedy where frequent inflammations of the tonsils without proper treatment had left an obstinate chronic induration of these glands which resisted all allœopathic treatment. I am now treating such a patient to whom every new dose of *nux* produces considerable relief.

In some affections of the mouth, *nux* proves very useful, particularly where a number of offensive ulcers are situated within the buccal cavity and upon the fauces, which produce a disagreeable taste which the patient cannot overcome, and exhale a putrid odour perceptible to the attendants. In children, these symptoms sometimes arise without any evident striking cause, frequently they exist in children concomitantly with anginose affections. Remedies apparently well indicated, as *bell.*, *arsen.*, *rali sulphur*, *acid nitri*, have frequently afforded no relief, and *nux* produced a good effect within a few hours. In low putrid fevers, in which these kind of ulcers are prone to appear, I believe our remedy might be of service. I have indeed for some time been of the opinion, that *nux* would prove serviceable in some kinds of putrid fever, and although I have not yet treated a case of the kind, I would call attention to it. Where other symptoms indicated it, I would undoubtedly exhibit this remedy in such cases, and I shall be pleased if the practical experience of others confirms my views. Although the diseases of the skin in which *nux* is applicable, are not very numerous, they are still of sufficient importance to deserve particular consideration. Gross says in Archiv.

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f., hom., Heilkunst, vol. VI., 2, p. 13 : "Even the most trifling alterations of the cutaneous surface, have a more important bearing than is generally supposed : they are by no means to be looked upon as purely local and isolated affections, but rather as standing in the closest connexion with the whole organism : it is therefore improper to treat them partially, and endeavour to destroy them by local applications." On page 25, he observes : "of several remedies, *nux vomica* is the chief, for the certain cure of *frost-bitten limbs*, especially if the temperament of the patient is adapted, or where considerable swelling of a light red colour exists." I add to this, where a burning itching of the affected parts exists—which is aggravated particularly in the warm air and in bed : and not less there where the light red swelling cracks, and when touched even lightly begins to bleed. *Nux* proved serviceable in my hands in a kind of herpes, where the fissured parts of the skin were surrounded by a redness, with burning : and a sensitive burning stinging pain, with swelling of the heel, which was aggravated by walking, and closely resembled pernio, but was not produced from the effects of cold, was cured by this remedy alone.

Pimples on the face and scalp, occurring in individuals of a plethoric habit ; although not always curable by *nux* alone,—still find it with other remedies a valuable intercurrent.

This remedy can prove serviceable in hæmorrhages, when the whole morbid state corresponds with it, but still according to my own experience, only in *venous* hæmorrhages, and here too only where the loss of blood is not very great. Arterial hæmorrhages do not come within the sphere of effects of *nux*, and the young homœopathist

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would commit a serious error, if he exhibited it in this kind of hæmorrhage, even where the other symptoms seem to indicate it. Bloody saliva, (symptom 235;) spitting of blood, &c., (symptom 236;) and epistaxis, (symptom 580, &c.,) appear to be arterial; but are not often observed, and are to be looked upon as isolated symptoms, and by viewing the other morbid symptoms, we shall say that they but seldom can be cured by *nux*. The first symptoms denote more a transudation of blood from the vessels,—no true hæmorrhage. All of the symptoms here given in cases of disease, would be made manifest to us only after the precedence of congestive symptoms to the various parts: and this dynamically diseased state of the blood vessels of particular organs, which we term congestions, do belong to those not uncommon diseases, in which *nux* is specifically indicated. Metrorrhagiæ occurring during gestation, after delivery and during confinement, require usually some other remedy, as they are usually of arterial origin. Those forms of metrorrhagiæ on the contrary, which appear in the unimpregnated state of the uterus, almost always at the menstrual period, or at the climacteric period, are generally of venous origin, and are frequently caused by a varicose state of the veins of the uterus, which is readily discovered by an examination, and by the swelling of the veins of the neighbouring parts. Metrorrhagia which occurs at the climacteric period, is produced by a sedentary life, and plethora with nutritious diet, by exciting and stimulating drinks, is often accompanied by constipation, difficult urination and tumefaction of hæmorrhoidal vessels; and though of venous origin is but seldom cured by *nux*, as I have repeatedly experienced. We

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may, however, prevent a recurrence of this morbid state, by regulating the diet, and exhibiting this remedy after the metrorrhagia has ceased. Frequent recurrences of hæmorrhages of this nature are followed by sequelæ, which often yield to *nux*.

All hæmorrhages are, however, preceded by the symptoms of congestion of a more or less violent character, and as these, in part, as I have already mentioned, are cured by our remedy, I shall now proceed to mention more in detail, the cases in which I have found it useful. Congestions to different organs, manifest different symptoms, and it is alone by these, that we are able to decide to which remedies they will succumb.

Those congestions to the head which are characterised by distension of the veins of the head, heat and redness of the face, particularly of the forehead, &c., which are induced by a sedentary life, long continued intellectual exertion and the use of spirituous drinks, are generally cured by this remedy. Congestions to the chest, induced by the same causes, and manifested by palpitation of the heart; short, quick breathing; oppression, anxiety; asthmatic symptoms generally; and which by repeated recurrence, readily give rise to habitual spasms of the chest—are overcome by it. If excessive joy, on the other hand, be the exciting cause of the congestion to the chest, a single dose of *coffea* will prove curative; but only with individuals who are not indicated to its use; *coffea* may indeed, even in such an individual, somewhat diminish the hyper-sensibility; but it will not be entirely overcome. without being followed by a dose of *nux*.

Congestion to the abdomen, depending upon like causes, and manifesting itself by: tension, distension,

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pressure heat and burning of the abdomen, the symptoms of hæmorrhoidal or menstrual congestion, and the various symptoms of abdominal disturbance, which by frequent recurrence, produce inaction and disorganisation of the abdominal organs, and is therefore so common in patients labouring under hæmorrhoids and hypochondriasis, offers a good criterion for the application of *nux* in diseases.

Here too belong uterine congestions, which, according to Haas, must be classed with the paralytic and passive congestions, and which assume the character of paralysie. They are generally produced by a torpid state of the uterine vessels, by which a stagnation of the blood in their vessels is induced, and from which a varicose state is gradually affected. In girls who have attained the pubal age, this condition produces an early appearance and more copious discharge of the catamenia than is natural in the healthy state, and by frequent recurrence, metrorrhagia is readily produced. In married women, this varicose condition of the uterine vessels frequently gives origin to abortion. In the unimpregnated uterus, and also the enormous losses of blood from miscarriage, I have generally made use of *crocus sativus*, particularly where the discharge was of a dark black coagula ; *china* is, however, sometimes the proper remedy where depletion threatens to supervene. *Belladonna* and *platina* have proved successful in some cases, more particularly when the patient complained of a constant bearing down towards the vagina as if the intestines would be forced out : both *ipecac.** and *hyosciamus* likewise

* *Crocus* is undoubtedly a very efficacious remedy in metrorrhagia with discharge of venous coagula ; while in my hands at least, *sa-*

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produce a favorable effect, the latter particularly, where spasmodic twitchings of the limbs and of the facial muscles is conjoined. To prevent the cause of this dangerous disease, the varicose state of the sexual organs produced by the frequent recurrence of congestions to these parts, by which the whole uterine organ assumes a state of flaccidity, (Erschlaffungs-Zustand.) All of the above-named remedies are futile, and here *nux vomica* very plainly evinces its specific power.

Abortion is, however, not produced by such a varicose condition of the uterine vessels only, but by other causes which act as stimulants to the organism, by which congestion (without a varicose condition) is produced in that organ in which vitality is at the time in an exalted state: here belongs all heating, exciting drinks, and food. Such indulgences must be strictly avoided during pregnancy, and a few doses of *nux* given at intervals, particularly during the first months, almost always overcome the injurious effects of such a course. Abortion may like-

bina has proved equally successful in arterial metrorrhagiæ, but there is no remedy upon which I place more reliance than *ipecacuanha* in the first and second triturations, even in cases of this disease evidently of a more chlorotic character, and where the discharge is more due to an absolute change in the chemical constituents of the blood than to any local disease of the uterine vessels. I have recently satisfied myself of this fact, by a careful examination of a number of cases, in which the existence of a chlorotic state was beyond question, as in every instance a distinct *bruit de diable* in the carotids, (more particularly the left,) existed. The action of *ipecac.* is palliative only, and I need not speak of the necessity of a more thorough treatment during the intervals, as this is, of course, understood by every homœopathic practitioner who has passed the threshhold of the science.—*Translator.*

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wise be produced by a mechanical irritation, as I have often observed, from constipation during gestation. It sometimes happens in such cases that miscarriage occurs from an ineffectual urging at stool, by which premature uterine contractions are induced. This complaint I have uniformly removed by administering *nux*, and more rapidly where the constipation commenced with the pregnant state.

If the first symptoms of miscarriage have already occurred, *nux* is no longer applicable, but other remedies are indicated according to the morbid manifestations.

This remedy is often adapted to the plethoric state during gestation, which the allœopathic practitioner believes cannot be overcome, except by venesection. This state can be looked upon as pathological, during pregnancy only, when it is partial, as general plethora must always exist at this time, from very evident causes. I have frequently seen it originate, in addition to the causes already specified, from wet feet, where it appeared in the form of congestion to the head, chest, or uterus. Gastric fever is almost always conjoined with the congestion to the head, which is manifested by vertigo, violent headache, particularly in the forehead, or in one side of the head, with red cheeks, distension of the vessels.

Congestion to the uterus during gestation, as previously mentioned, may produce abortion, if it occurs during the first four months; during the latter period, if it is not checked and continues, it may easily produce premature delivery. I have already spoken of the first of these states: the latter, when so far advanced, cannot be overcome by this remedy, although the complaints and premonitions which precede it may find a curative in it.

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Congestion to the uterus, during the last half of pregnancy, produces, usually, bearing-down pains, which recur at intervals, but not the peculiar pains of labour, which occur at each repetition with increased violence, these remain the same, do not, like the latter, extend from the sacrum towards the genitals, but have a more fixed seat in the back, and affect the uterus more through sympathy, which is indicated by the sensitiveness of the abdomen to every motion, and to the touch. By long continuance of this state, the vitality of the trunk becomes much increased, while it diminishes in the extremities, and is accompanied by coldness of the hands and feet. A simple lavement of *tepid water* often allays the pain for a moment, without, however, preventing its recurrence. These morbid phenomena are generally produced by violent cold, affecting the feet, and inordinate coition. This congestion is a similar disease to that which the allœopathists understand under the name of *rheumatismus uteri.* If not relieved by medical aid, it continues during the whole period of gestation, and then increases the difficulty of labour very much.

I have frequently removed states similar to this, where the constitutional symptoms indicated it, with the smallest doses of *nux vomica ;* sometimes also with *bryonia ;* and carried patients through such attacks at time of labour, converting them into regular labour pains, which soon terminate in delivery. These attacks are called by the midwives, in general terms, as weak, worrying pains, which do not progress the delivery at all.

A similar state sometimes occurs during the month, which here may assume a more dangerous character than before parturition, as it can more readily become

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converted into a kind of *metritis* and febris puerperalis, in consequence of increased irritability of the sexual system. As I have already remarked, the symptoms of these latter diseases are sometimes such as to find a curative in *nux vomica*. The individuality of such a case the physician will be able to discover, and from this, determine whether *nux* be indicated or not. The symptoms are generally so prominent and characteristically developed that, with an accurate knowledge of the symptomatology of the materia medica, one cannot readily err. I have given the detailed description of a case of *febris puerperalis*, with inflammatory affection of the uterus succeeding delivery, where *nux* was the specific curative in the Archiv., vol. v., p. 102.

As I have been speaking of abnormal conditions during gestation and after delivery, I will here mention a morbid state of the lochial discharge, where, if there be no distinction of any other organ indicating *nux*, it will but seldom produce any change. Vomiting during pregnancy, in proper cases, is generally cured by *nux*, or a few doses of *ipecac.*,* permanently. The occurrence of vomiting with violent belly pains, during the last months, is of more rare occurrence, but is frequently cured by *nux*.

I have frequently allayed after pains of the most severe kind with *nux*, particularly when there was a feeling as if she must go to stool on lying down; but on making the effort at stool, the spasmodic pains extended more to the womb and bladder. A painful symptom which I have repeatedly observed during gestation, and which if not removed, continued after delivery—was an internal swell-

* Or *kreosote*, or *sepia*.—*Translator.*

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ing on one side of the vagina, like a thick, swollen fold of skin, resembling a prolapsus vaginæ, with burning, smarting pains, which were aggravated by touching externally. I have cured this isolated symptom several times, with this remedy met with.

I have another variety of congestion in females at the climacteric period, where the catamenial discharge had ceased for several months, who were accustomed to a sedentary life, a nutritious diet, and indulged freely in strong *coffee* and *wine*. This congestion generally appears in the peripheral organs of the body, in the form of suggilations, extravasations in the skin, with smarting and itching of the whole cutaneous surface; general inquietude; restless, anxious sleep; constipation: it may readily terminate in *apoplexia sanguinea*. Where the diet is properly regulated, no remedy is better indicated by this state than *nux*.

A lady, already long past forty years of age, in whom the catamenia had continued too long and too profuse, (she first menstruated at twelve years,) was troubled every fortnight or three weeks, with such a copious discharge, that she was frequently obliged to keep her bed for weeks. Her physician advised venesection as soon as the premonitions occurred, which was faithfully followed, without however, the desired result. I was called to advise her, as despite venesection the catamenia had recurred several times at short intervals, and the symptoms of plethora in the highest degree had set in, which was manifested by paralytic weakness of the limbs, ecchymoses of greater and smaller portions of the skin, very irritable temper, violent pressing cephalalgia. The patient, as well as bystanders, considered bleeding indis-

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pensable, and it was with great difficulty I could persuade them to postpone it for a few days. I gave the patient *nux*, and regulated her diet.

After the lapse of the time in which we had agreed to venesection, no one who had previously demanded it, found it required, for all symptoms of plethora had disappeared, and did not recur again, as I at intervals had given two more doses of this remedy. Six months have now elapsed, menstruation has not recurred, and the lady is now quite well.

We come now to speak of disordered menstruation, and will here consider *a too profuse catamenial flow*. Premature, or too frequent catamenia, is always a relative term; only as with some individuals it appears earlier, and with others later, and still cannot in either case be considered abnormal. Admit however, that it appears too soon; still it can only be looked upon as abnormal, when this physiological act is accompanied by morbid phenomena. This unnatural state generally occurs in sensitive subjects, and is produced by exalted sensibility of the sexual system, which is induced by such injurious influences, as are capable of producing congestion to the genitals; as onanism, obscure conversation, moral reading, by which the imagination is excited, strong spirituous drinks, strong *coffee*, &c. The morbid phenomena accompanying this state as well as the injuries resulting from too frequent catamenia, are frequently found among the effects of *nux*, and it therefore can frequently be applied in these cases.

If this physiological act becomes changed into a pathological state, and appears as inordinate catamenia, ***nux*** **is particularly indicated: 1st, where the blood con-**

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tinued to flow for eight, fourteen days, preserving its normal condition, and more particularly: 2nd, where menstruation occurs at short intervals, every fourteen, eighteen, twenty days. *Nux* is less adapted to those cases where there has been too great a loss of blood, within the proper time, from three to six days, and where too little blood flows at a time, but continues to flow almost uninterruptedly, which belong now to the metrorrhagiæ. Hahnemann says in his prefatory remarks to this remedy: "If the catamenia is in the habit of appearing several days too soon, and to flow too much, the complaints which remain after it has ceased, or those which arise from it, are very characteristic of this remedy." The causes which give origin to this morbid condition, I have already mentioned, and I shall therefore pass them by here. The cases of such morbid menstruation, are so diversified, that they cannot be accurately detailed; I therefore content myself with mention of them only, without entering into any farther individualisation.

Where a dragging pain in the muscles of the throat extending towards the occiput, preceded the catamenia, which occurred too soon, *nux* proved specific. I have generally met with this state, in strong, plethoric, well fed women.

A timid, tearful tone of mind, with sense of qualmishness, at and above the epigastrium, which appeared about a day after the termination of the menstrual discharge, which made it occur somewhat too early, was cured by *nux*, and by proper regulation of the diet, did not again occur. All of the symptoms of *nux*, which indicate morbid changes in the catamenia, show that it is

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applicable only in those cases, where menstruation occurs too frequently and too profusely : it is entirely inapplicable where the menses are retarded, or too small in quantity. I am unable to state, from lack of sufficient experience, whether it would prove entirely inefficacious in chlorotic complaints. In the cases in which I applied, even the smallest doses. I found myself obliged to overcome the injurious effects of *nux* by some other remedy, in order to bring the disease back to its original state. The chief difficulties which I have always witnessed after the exhibition of this curative in *chlorosis*, were, severe headache, causing the patient to lie down ; very great prostration ; colicky pains in the belly ; nausea, even vomiting and complete inappetence. But still I believe that it is not to be entirely excluded as a curative in this class of diseases, as it is well known as a chief remedy in diseases of the reproductive system, in which chlorotic difficulties have their seat. Probably the difficulty was with myself, that I administered it at an improper time, either in too small or too large a dose : at least, I have found it beneficial in several kinds of *fluor albus*. The word *hæmorrhoids*, according to the descriptions of the allœopathist, is of very extended import. It is evidently overdone, for there are forms of disease placed under this head, which do not deserve the name even in its most extended sense. I will here merely recal. *Hæmorrhoids*, *vesicales*, *verrucales*, *mucosæ*, *anomalæ*, &c. These forms of disease so falsely called hæmorrhoidal, are diseases of another kind, which are not to be treated according to the indications of hæmorrhoids ; if we do not wish, as is so often the case, to wrong the patient with a number of unsuitable remedies. The exciting causes of disease,

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here, as in all other diseases, must not be lost sight of, and if suppressed hæmorrhoids, or their spontaneous disappearance, has been the cause of disease, and if there is a remedy which is best indicated by the present state of the disease; which in its primary effects, also produces a kind of hæmorrhoidal disease, it will exhibit the best therapeutic influence upon the existing diseased state—let it appear as vesical, or in another hæmorrhoidal form. We must, however, not lay too much stress upon the disappearance of the hæmorrhoids previously existing, and endeavour to found a cure upon their reappearance; but always treat the disease, according to the indications which it offers at the time.

The chief seat of this disease is the rectum, and it derives its name from the arteries and veins which are there distributed, which are brought into this state by congestion, which we term hæmorrhoids. Blind and bleeding piles differ merely in degree, and the difference arises from the longer or shorter or more violent congestion of blood to these vessels by which the *cæcæ* and *fluidæ* are formed. It is perfectly natural to suppose that this forcible congestion of blood to the rectum would give rise to sympathetic affection in the sacral nerves, which is manifested by pains in the sacrum and the neighbouring parts, and even exists before either bleeding or blind hæmorrhoids have been noticed; but it is not true that this pain alone and in itself indicates a hæmorrhoidal disposition. Disturbances in other organs are likewise produced by such congestions and stagnations, particularly in the abdomen, which frequently, but still not always, result from hæmorrhoids, and therefore cannot be cited as constant symptoms of this dis-

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ease, as they often exist as secondary difficulties, and therefore do not disappear concomitantly with hæmorrhoids, when the proper remedy for this affection has been exhibited, but continue and require entirely different remedies to effect their removal.

Nux is indicated and is a very effective remedy both in blind and bleeding piles ; it is most indicated where the disease has been produced by the use of strong heating drinks, wine, brandy, strong beer, and coffee ; also where it is produced by intellectual labour, meditation with a sedentary mode of life, consequently where there is a constant pressure upon the abdominal organs : it is likewise indicated where foreign bodies in the rectum, hardened fæces, worms, and particularly ascarides, produce the disease, and finally, where the pregnant uterus, swelling of the abdominal organs, organic alterations in the rectum and neighbouring parts, give origin to them.

After the use of stimulating drinks I have often allayed hæmorrhoidal attacks with a single dose of *nux*, but was obliged afterwards to resort to it frequently, as the patients but seldom abstained entirely from the use of stimuli. In these cases patients generally complained of the presence of large piles, with burning stinging pains in the tumours conjoined with a feeling of constriction in the rectum as if the passage was too narrow during dejection, with which dull stitches in the sacrum and coccyx, and on the slightest motion of the body a bruise-like pain arose in the sacrum, which forced them to cry out ; they were unable to stand or walk erect, but only with the body flexed.

Similar pains in the sacral region not dependent on hæmorrhoidal difficulty, but caused by wetting the feet

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in damp cold weather, I have repeatedly cured with *nux*. A kind of periodical pain in the back almost of an intermittent character, (unaccompanied by fever,) that extended upwards between the scapulæ and sometimes towards the labia, a slight dragging pain which always increased by motion, appeared periodically every day, and continued from six to eight hours, which was conjoined with constipation, continuing from three to eight days, was relieved by a single dose of the decillionth of *nux*; after the lapse of forty-eight hours the paroxysm indeed returned, but continued for a short time only, and was so trifling that while it existed, the patient could pursue her usual household duties.

That *nux* must prove beneficial where *ascarides* give rise to hæmorrhoids is plain from the fact that it is a very effective remedy against these worms, and a single dose is often sufficient to rid the rectum of these parasites, while the occasioning cause of the hæmorrhoids is at the same time removed. *Nux* however is not the only remedy in these cases of worms, and consequently cannot be the only one in cases of hæmorrhoids arising from this cause.

Hæmorrhoids frequently appear in females; the rectum indeed is often subject to vicarious discharges of the uterus, and this disease may here appear both in old and young persons. More frequently however, they occur after pregnancy, by which varices are formed in females. They are frequently a secondary disease under such circumstances, as they depend upon the uterine system, and organic diseases of this system give origin to them.

In this case they are not to be looked upon as a

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trifling malady, and no certainly favourable prognosis ought to be made. Congestion to the uterus, atony, indurations of the ovary, uterine and vaginal prolapsus, are predisposing causes of the disease. Accurate investigation of the causes frequently shows that *nux* is the proper curative, and even if this be not the case, it deserves to be mentioned as an admirable intercurrent remedy.

Although *nux* does not produce a single symptom which denotes a bloody discharge from the bladder, still it is not unlikely that in some cases of so-termed hæmorrhoids of the bladder, it may be applicable.

The abnormal sensations partially in the bladder and urethra, in part also the predisposing causes and the tone of mind of the patient speak decisively in such cases for its application.

I have repeatedly found it efficacious in cases of mucous discharge from the bladder, (mucous hæmorrhoids,) and a single dose has removed this very painful complaint. In slight cases this is possible; but in difficult and chronic cases, where there is perhaps disorganization of the bladder and the neighbouring parts, a single dose would not be sufficient, and indeed this remedy alone will not prove curative. I must admit that in two difficult cases of this character I could produce palliative relief only, and this with a frequent change of remedies.

The painful sensations in the urethra which *nux* produces, render it evident why several homœopathic physicians have found this remedy so beneficial in gravel and calculous disorders. I refer here to the experience

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of Dr. Gross, who has found this remedy together with *sarsaparilla* very efficacious in complaints of this nature.

This remedy likewise deserves attention in *retentio urinæ*, and particularly in that form which is designated ISCHURIA. It is very easy to see why I do not call *nux* the specific in these cases, although it is frequently the best adapted of many remedies apparently indicated, as this disease is never an uncomplicated form, but exists only as an accompanying phenomenon dependent upon another disease. Everything therefore depends upon the exciting cause. If it is the concomitant of *nephritis*, it will more readily yield to this remedy, if it is the remedy indicated by the *ensemble* of the disease as I have already mentioned when treating of *nephritis*. If it is caused by varicosis of the bladder as in hæmorrhages of the bladder, by calculous difficulty or mucous accumulation in the bladder, the homœopathic physician will attend to what I have already remarked.

When it is caused by vesical spasm, hæmorrhoidal spasm, or colic, and becomes united with these, our remedy is frequently the one best adapted to allay this painful malady.

A kind of *strangury*, which frequently appears after the use of beer, and sometimes continues for a number of days, and is manifested by frequent urination, with passage of little water, and burning pain in the urethra during micturition, which becomes a contracting tearing pain, with a restless feeling over the whole body, I have frequently cured with this remedy.

In a so-termed balano-blenorrhœa, which did not originate from infection, but from a morbidly increased secretion of the smegma, I cured the itching, smarting

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pains, with this remedy! A small dose of *cinnabaris* removed the remains of the disease in a few days.*

I have sometimes cured frequent nocturnal emissions, occurring in robust men, who have not produced the disease by onanism, with this remedy: likewise a kind of spasmodic wrenching pain in the spermatic cord, with tumefaction and hardness of the testicle on the side affected, by which the testicle was drawn spasmodically upwards; the pain was more violent when standing or walking, and sometimes entirely disappeared when sitting. I have observed this complaint most frequently in individuals who had been subject to frequent emissions which had ceased. Inordinate sexual desire, with frequent painful erections after midnight, where the symptom was not the concomitant of a gonorrhœa, was rapidly cured by *nux*.

Hahnemann says of this remedy, "Its disposition to check the peristaltic action is, in true uncomplicated dysentery, injurious, as constipation is thereby induced, the signs of vitiated bile increase, although the dysenteric excretions are less frequent, they continue to be followed just as constantly by tenesmus, and are of the same bad character." More extensive experience has proved, to the supporters of homœopathy, that this opinion of Hahnemann requires modification. In dysentery there is spasmodic contraction of the muscular fibres of the intestines, which is manifested by the tormina and the tenesmus, by

* In my hands *cinnabaris* alone has frequently cured this disease, even when dependent upon venereal infection. It most frequently occurs in individuals with a long succulent foreskin, and in such cases I have found that the exposure of the glans to the air, retracting the prepuce, and cold bathing, generally prevented a return of this filthy and troublesome complaint.—*Translator*.

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which the peristaltic motion is increased secondarily, on which account the inhibition of this remedy, in dysenteric patients, does not produce constipation, without, at the same time, allaying the harassing belly pains and tenesmus, if, of course, there be no contra indications to its use. It is indeed one of the most powerful and effective of our remedies in this disease, where the alvine evacuations but seldom contain fæces, but generally consist of blood and mucus.

It is also frequently applicable in cases which we can only term dysenteric diarrhœa, when there is very slight fœcal discharges with urging and tenesmus. I have done much with this remedy in the dysentery which occurred in the latter part of the summer of last year, and in several cases converted the dysentery into a simple, mild diarrhœa, and in some few I cured the disease entirely with it.

One case, where the appearance of dysentery was preceded by several other diseases, particularly interested me. A child, nine and a half years old, was attacked with the measles, which, from its favorable course from the beginning, was not subjected to any treatment; at the height of the disease a violent diarrhœa, with mucous vomiting, set in, so that the parents were afraid to trust the case to nature as it threatened danger. I was called, and in addition to the symptoms detailed, I found that the measles had disappeared. *Pulsatilla* was the remedy indicated. The diarrhœa and vomiting ceased within five hours, the exanthem was re-established, and pursued its regular course. The period of desquamation had not passed when a violent chemosis set in: the eye would not tolerate the light, and it was conjoined with considerable

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febris inflammatoria. *Aconite* removed the whole difficulty in twenty-four hours. For five days the girl was quite lively, but at that time complained of itching and burning of the skin, and the next day a scarlatinous redness appeared over several parts of the body, which continued to spread: the throat, the tonsils, the gums, and the tongue, were red and swollen, and the child was obliged to spit continually, as quantities of viscid mucus were constantly secreted; deglutition was accompanied with much pain. I administered a small dose of *mercurius solubilis*, by which the anginose affection was much relieved within two days. The inflammatory fever continued, the exanthem was in full bloom, and I now exhibited *belladonna* 30, which, without the aid of any other medicine, caused a gentle and harmless course of the disease.

Desquamation was scarcely effected when diarrhœa and pains in the belly set in. The child desired to be placed upon the close-stool every fifteen minutes, and complained of severe, cutting pains, in the umbilical region, and deep in the abdomen, with which an urging and tenesmus in the rectum was conjoined; at the same time the dejections were of very small quantities of fæces, in lumps, mixed with mucus and blood, or consisted entirely of bloody mucus. After the discharge of these masses the tenesmus in the rectum and the belly pains disappeared for a short time; conjoined with these there existed great heat, dry tongue, red cheeks, much thirst, urine bright red, no appetite or sleep. I gave a drop of *nux* 30, which produced complete restoration in a few days.

In some few cases, of a most violent character, *nux* was

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of no service, and here it was that *sublimatus* was of the greatest use. Occasionally governed by circumstances, *staphys.*, *rhus.*, *arsen.*, *merc. sol.*, &c., were indicated.

Constipation, in the present luxurious mode of living, is a very common complaint which, however, we but seldom treat as an uncomplicated symptom. For although daily evacuation of the bowels is so essential to unimpaired health, it is but rarely the case that a man otherwise healthy pays much attention to this state, and it is only when harassing abdominal complaints are induced that he seeks the apparent cause in this, and then, without seeking medical advice, endeavors to cure himself by the use of aperients, which afford him some relief for a time, but by their long continued or repeated use, still greater inertia and atony of the bowels, and particularly of the rectum, is produced, and the peristaltic action of the bowels, which previously existed, which was manifested by a sense of pressing down in the rectum, (ineffectual effort to evacuate the fæces,) is entirely suppressed. In such cases there is a great disposition to gastric disturbances, which, by long continuance, may produce organic changes in the abdominal organs; but still, even under these circumstances, *nux* often proves the radical curative. Obstructions which are overcome with the most certainty, by this remedy, are those which are produced by the frequent use of *coffee*, and of stimulating and spirituous drinks.

Although the disorders which arise from overloading the stomach are often relieved by spontaneous vomiting, yet, by frequent recurrence, repletion is frequently followed by bad results, to which febrile symptoms frequently become conjoined, which would then place this

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disease among fevers, and I could just as well have introduced it under the head of *febris gastrica*; still I deem it better to precede the description of *gastralgia* with this disease, in which it readily passes over, or at least gives occasion to. Indigestion is generally characterised by eructations, nausea, fulness, or pressure in the stomach, flatulence, vertigo, and heaviness of the head, inclination to vomit, burning sensation in the stomach and œsophagus, &c. All of these symptoms likewise occur in individuals who indulge too freely in spirituous drinks, and in whom there exists generally a still more troublesome symptom—a kind of vomiting in the morning, more retching, with a highly unpleasant contracting sensation in the epigastrium, sometimes a cough with retching, by which a viscid white mucus is thrown off, sometimes in large, and again in small quantities. The complaints first mentioned, from overloading the stomach with food, are often cured by *nux* and proper regulation of the diet; while the latter variety of vomiting, *vomitus potatorum*, is specifically cured by this remedy, where patients faithfully follow our advice. That the neglect of these complaints, on the part of the patient or his physician, may readily give rise to indurations in the œsophagus and stomach, I need only so far mention, because such indurations, in their incipiency, are often overcome by this remedy, or the progress of the disease is at least checked, where there is doubt of a complete cure. This remedy most generally affords most relief, although *arsenic* or some other remedy may be indicated.

Some varieties of *vomitus saburralis*, *pituitosus*, and *biliosus*, are relieved by this remedy, as it, as I have before remarked, is useful in bilious complaints generally.

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Another variety of vomiting from gastric debility, *vomitus atonicus*, is frequently cured by *nux*, when it originates in a sedentary mode of life, with overtax of the intellectual powers. As in all cases of debility, so here a long time is required to effect restoration, and it is but seldom that a single dose of *nux* is sufficient.

Whether the vomiting, which accompanies incarcerated hernia, can always be overcome by *nux*, requires still more extended experience, which must demonstrate whether it is a specific in strangulated hernia or not, which the case of successful termination which I have related under the head of colic, does not yet fully prove.

Pyrosis, a stifling, irritating, burning sensation, extending from the stomach below the œsophagus, appears frequently as a concomitant of gastralgia, but may also frequently appear unconnected with this disease, which, by long continuance, terminates in gastralgia. These complaints, if not produced by the use of fat food and pastry, in which case *pulsatilla* is useful, are often cured by *nux*, as experience has repeatedly proved to me.

The allœopathists in their materia medica, likewise recommend *nux vomica* in *cardialgia*, on account of the considerable quantity of bitter extract with which the narcotic principle of the *nux vomica* is fully combined. It operates particularly upon an unnatural state of the secretions, and in torpidity of the intestinal canal, or because it is a powerful excitant of the spinal nervous system.

An unnatural state of the intestinal secretions is always merely the product of an existing disease, but not the disease itself; therefore nothing is won by an im-

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provement of the secretions of the alimentary canal, if we attend to this alone. I have treated a great number of patients suffering with *cardialgia*, in whom an unnatural state of the gastric secretions could not be overlooked; where also, according to the above, the extract of *nux vomica* should have proved beneficial; but alas! I but seldom could effect anything with this inert substance. But when I applied the tincture homœopathically prepared, I could count with certainty upon a cure, namely, when this remedy was fully indicated. A certain proof that the extract does not possess the power attributed to it. *Cardialgia* depends upon a dynamic change in the gastric nerves, and chiefly upon an exalted irritability of the same, whereby an unnatural contraction of the muscular fibres of the stomach is induced. The result of this explanation is nothing more than this: we have in a few words connected the morbid phenomena which accompany *cardialgia*, to make ourselves more readily understood, and to give our minds a graphic image of the affected organ upon which we have to act in this disease. But does this explanation assist us in the selection of remedies with which we have to cure this disease? For the effects of remedies upon the healthy human organism is the only method which shows to us the applicability of remedies in this or that disease. Allœopathy acts otherwise in this case: she believes to have found in this explanation the essence of this disease, and consequently prescribes a mass of remedies, the majority of which belong to the class of anti-spasmodics; this is just the reason why in the cure of this disease she is less successful than homœopathy; and the few specifics which are recommended are not given with sufficient speciality for

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one to determine whether they are applicable in the one or the other forms of *cardialgia*.

The most powerful and best remedy according to allœopathy in this disease is opium, of which I will admit, that in large and repeated doses it diminishes the paroxysms of pain; but *cure* this disease it cannot, as in its primary effects it does not produce a single pain; on the contrary, it produces loss of sensation, the direct secondary effect of which is, exalted sensibility, and of course, more violent paroxysms of pain. As however in the cure of disease, we must make use of the primary effects of remedial agents, so is it evident that opium in this disease acts merely as a palliative. *Camphor* is likewise an important remedial agent in this disease, and is said to be particularly applicable in those cases where there has been a suppression of a previous exanthematous affection, or where the *cardialgia* attacks individuals who have been debilitated by onanism. Whoever knows accurately the positive effects of *camphor* upon the healthy human organism, can readily perceive that it does not deserve this praise in the disease under consideration! Without mentioning its transient effects, and the rapidity in the change of its symptoms, on which account it is not well adapted to the cure of chronic diseases. If the *cardialgia* occurs after suppressed eruptions, it is a proof that the eruptive form of disease was badly treated, and the disease in its totality not removed; but nevertheless independent of this, it is still improper to exhibit *camphor* after the suppressions of the various exanthemata, as at most, it will only be indicated where the *cardialgia* occurred after the suppression of a so-termed erysipelas, which latter is produced by *cam-*

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phor itself, as a primary effect. If however the suppression of another kind of eruption has produced the disease, *camphor* would if exhibited be completely inefficacious. We must here first apply the remedy adapted to the original complaint; for instance, against suppressed *scabies*, *sulphur*; suppressed *syphilis*, *mercury*; and if the *cardialgia* is not thereby overcome, we must then oppose to the existing disease the remedy now better adapted to the totality of its phenomena. In general we will not easily remove diseases occurring after suppressed eruptions or other forms of cutaneous diseases, if we do not first apply the remedy adapted to the original complaint. Physicians were apparently led to exhibit *camphor* after suppressed cutaneous affections, because it has a particular influence upon the skin, in order to produce an alleviation of the existing malady, by an increased cutaneous exhalation. Probably also because in large doses it diminishes the sensibility of the whole nervous system, and the contractility of the muscular fibre, particularly those belonging to the natural and vital functions, and in the same degree lessens the irratibility of the capillaries particularly. According to the views of the allœopathists, *camphor* must likewise relieve those individuals who have been attacked with *cardialgia* from onanism. This view rests upon a false postulate. According to the law *contraria contrariis*, the debilitated genitals and the gastric weakness thereby induced, must be met by an active remedy which acts as an excitant, and one is overjoyed, deceived by the frequent repetition of the remedy, at the permanent effect which is produced by it; and still it is a mere deception. For if the patient with the firm conviction that he is

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cured, omits the remedy, he but too soon sees the beneficial results vanish, and his previous malady recurs in an aggravated degree. *Cinchona* operates with far more certainty in *cardialgia* dependent upon such a weakness as if a specific properly adapted to disorders arising from onanism. A frequent repetition of the dose at intervals gradually more prolonged is here essential, in order to overcome an affection which has so deep a foundation in the organism, by which the patient must accurately follow the directions of his physician, and strictly avoid the vice of self-pollution, which he will be most apt to do if his physician relates to him the results of this vice, and gives him according to his settled conviction, the hope of speedy restoration. If this affection has already become dceply rooted, some of the symptoms which occur, occasionally demand an intercurrent remedy, but still *china* always remains the specific curative.

The naphthæ on account of their transient effects, will be as little likely to effect a permanent cure of this chronic disease, as camphor. *Moschus* is recommended as an important remedy, particularly where a general spastic state exists, or accompanies the disease, as in the *febris intermittens cardialgica.* It is well known, that musk is an important anti-spasmodic, which homœopathists themselves must admit, as it is indispensable in the cure of some spasmodic diseases: but this does not at all prove, that it must prove beneficial in every variety of spasm. The symptoms given in Hahnemann's materia medica, (vol. I.,) prove that it has the power of producing morbid states in the stomach; but still I would always doubt its power in *cardialgia*, as these symptoms prove to

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be more consensual to other complaints, and not as the chief symptoms of *cardialgia*. I at least, in the cure of this disease, have not been obliged to have recourse to musk, as other and much more powerful agents in these complaints, have not failed me. In what *febris intermittens cardialgica*, might it be applicable? There is no such thing as a fixed disease, which always manifests itself under the same circumstances and with the same phenomena, which we may readily deduce from the infinite forms of intermittent fever, and the different kinds and degrees of *cardialgia*. The inordinate use of *china*, the specific in intermittent fever, which is exhibited with such obstinate perseverance; although the stomach cannot bear its use for a long time without danger, may very readily produce *cardialgia*, which however cannot be cured by musk, but by the antidotes to *china*, among which *nux vomica*, although not a direct antidote, but still, not unfrequently as a proper intercurrent remedy, deserves to be mentioned, if *ipecac.*, *verat.* or *arsenic* are not still better indicated.

The symptoms of *hyosciamus*, which is used by the allœopathist as a remedy in this disease, likewise offer indications that it may prove beneficial in *cardialgic* complaints, although I have never prescribed it in this disease, as the symptoms in Hahnemann's materia medica do not denote with enough accuracy, in what cases of *cardialgia* it is applicable.

I am moreover much inclined to doubt whether any allœopathist has ever administered this remedy *alone* in this disease; but always in combination with other powerful drugs, from which we can deduce no proper conclusion as to its sanative virtue in *cardialgia*.

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But I shall extend my remarks too far, if I enter specially into the effects of all the remedies recommended in this complaint. And I will accordingly return to our subject, and will only call attention to the many powerful and effectual agents with which homœopathy effects cures in this disease; for instance: *bellad.*, *coccul.*, *stramum*, *chamomilla*, *china*, *staphys.*, &c., which are unknown to allœopathy, as remedies in the disease under consideration. Some cures by the remedies here mentioned, may serve as vouchers.

Mrs. N. of O., of strong powerful make, had suffered since the birth of her last child, about three years back, with gastric complaints which grew worse every year, and had produced a train of other symptoms. She applied to me in March, and informed me that after she had nursed her child for about three months, her appetite grew less and less. On this account she drank beer freely, and was so much strengthened by it, that by this simple means, she had milk enough to suckle her babe, until it was nine months old. At that time, her debility became so great, that she was obliged to wean it. Notwithstanding this, she could not gain her strength, as her appetite had failed her entirely: she even experienced the greatest aversion and nausea at the sight of food and drink. If she ate a few mouthfuls, she was immediately attacked with gastric pressure, pyrosis, collection of water in the mouth, and ineffectual retchings, which produced great prostration. She was tired and sleepy during the whole day, and not disposed to any kind of occupation. Alvine evacuation occurred daily; but was very small in quantity, and although without great effort, she was obliged to sit a long time before

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the bowels acted. The pulse was weak and small. The complexion was rather sallow, and the conjunctiva was of a yellowish hue. This chronic complaint, apparently induced by loss of fluids, indicated *china*, which was exhibited first in the sixth, and afterwards in the twelfth dilation, which produced a complete cure of all of the symptoms within three weeks, without any relapse.

Herr H. had suffered for several weeks, after every meal, with an oppressive griping pain in the upper part of the abdomen, on the left side directly below the ribs, and in the epigastrium, which produced an accumulation of water in the mouth, and impeded respiration, which, after about an hour, terminated in a griping over the whole abdomen, which then rendered him irritable and desponding. His stools were tardy, and often occurred only every other day. A glass of bitters, diminished his complaints, and shortened them. *Nux* 15 relieved the disease for eight days; but at the end of that period—after eating of fat food, it recurred with all its former violence, from which I concluded, that I had not given the true specific remedy. A dose of *cocculus* 12 cured him permanently.

Nux is chiefly applicable in *cardialgia*, which is produced by the frequent and free use of *coffee*, where it, as well as *chamomilla* is specifically effective. This inordinate use of *coffee*, is the reason why females are most prone to this complaint: the delicate organisation of the female, her sedentary life, by which the injurious influence of this drink is increased, while an active life, which calls the physical nature more into play, weakens or entirely overcomes its bad effects, which is more the case with males. Weak and delicate constitutions, with

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which to a certain extent, students are to be classed, who produce a debilitated habit of body, by a sedentary mode of life, which is increased still more by the use of *coffee*; and by the medicinal effect of the latter, in conjunction with sitting with the abdomen pressed together, by which the abdominal organs are prevented from being naturally distended, and by which debility of these organs must be produced, frequently gives rise to complaints which continue during life.

In regard to the constant use of *coffee* producing *cardialgia*, I refer to Hahnemann's treatise "On the Effects of Coffee," and to the pathological effects of *coffee*, as proved by Stapf, from which is clearly to be seen, that *coffee* is capable of producing a similar disease in the healthy human organism.

Madame B., some thirty years old, who had suffered for many years with a troublesome and distressing cough, lost her cough suddenly without any cause: instead of the cough, she was afflicted with a constant pressure, which sometimes became a griping in the gastric region, which was aggravated after every meal, and after drinking *coffee*, became so much exacerbated, that she was obliged to sit completely bent over. She was at the same time afflicted with constriction and oppression of the chest, and could only make a short inspiration, with which a partial hiccough was always conjoined.

Waterbrash occurred frequently during the day: inappetence Alvine evacuations hard occurring every third or fourth day. She had suffered from this complaint for full two years; had taken allœopathic remedies, which sometimes relieved her violent pain, but had never had any permanent effect, or cured the disease.

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I regulated her diet, and cured her entirely in four weeks, by the administration of two doses of *nux vomica*; and after this she could eat with impunity: she could even occasionally indulge in *coffee*, without reproducing her complaint; but she dare not make it her daily drink.

Nux is likewise applicable in other kinds of *cardialgia*; for instance, those cases which arise from frequent repletion. Also in cases which are conjoined with gouty complaints, because *nux* is a proper remedy in gout itself: farther, in cases depending upon organic diseases of the stomach, at least as a palliative, which frequently mitigates the disease for weeks together. *Arsenicum* is often better indicated in these cases.

Nux is recommended by the allœopathists in *abdominal spasms*. But in which? Spasms and colic, are terms of far too general a character, and we could not thus unconditionally administer this remedy in these complaints. I will endeavour here, the more special applications of this remedy in abdominal spasms, according to my own experience.

As this remedy produces indigestion and distention of the *regia epigastrica*, with pressure and fulness in the stomach, particularly after dinner: a disposition to flatulence, and even a *colica flatulentia*, it is therefore not singular that we cure a kind of flatulent colic with it. I always cured most readily, cases which had their seat deep in the abdomen, and were accompanied by the sensation, as if a cutting or sticking instrument was acting upon the bladder, the neck of the bladder, the beginning of the urethra, the perineum, the rectum and anus, as if cutting flatus would force itself out at all of these places: the pains were insupportable at every

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step, and the patients were drawn together with pain, that they were obliged to walk completely doubled over : when quiet, when sitting or lying, the pains soon mitigated. Several symptoms of *nux* conjoined with those mentioned under the head of colica hæmorrhoidalis and sanguinea, are evidence of its sanative influence in similar complaints, and this personal experience has confirmed. In some varieties of hæmorrhoidal colic, the bladder is affected in a greater or less degree; and here the disease has attained a great degree of violence. The external genitals, and the region of the bladder are spasmodically contracted inwards ; the sensitiveness of the abdomen, as the disease continues, becomes greater and greater, which indicates a sub-inflammatory state of the parts affected : there is at the same time, a constant urging to uri nate, and yet micturition is impossible, (Ischury :) anxiety and restlessness are frequent concomitants, which become aggravated by the continuance of the disease, and are a certain sign of hyper-sensibility of the nervous system, the certain termination of which, if improvement does not soon occur, is in a rapid prostration of the vital powers, particularly in advanced age.

This state where the constitution and temperament are adapted, is often completely cured by the smallest dose of this medicine in the course of a few hours. If however, the disease has so far advanced that the vital powers are broken, where the pains continue, and the debility becomes greater every minute, then this remedy will not suffice ; but perhaps *arsen.* had better be given, if indeed, it be not already too late for medical aid.

In colics of this character, the allœopathists are very prone to venesection, which if undertaken at the com-

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mencement of the disease, is productive of less injury than where applied when the disease is at its acme, where after its application; although the inflammatory state evidently predominates, is often followed by a rapid sinking of the powers of the patient, of which death is the inevitable result, as I have had several opportunities of observing.

I have spoken of *colica biliosa*, under the head of *febris biliosa*. Under proper homœopathic treatment, it will but seldom become true bilious colic, if proper attention is paid to the precursors, the *status biliosus* or *febris biliosa* and *hepatitis*, and the proper remedy adapted to each state, exhibited.

Colic from accumulations of fæces, is to be looked upon as of that class which arise from a local mechanical cause; and here a single dose of this remedy is frequently sufficient to effect a cure. If this kind of colic has attained a high degree of intensity, if it has become converted into a so-termed *miserere*, (iliac passion,) then in place of *nux*, we must exhibit a small dose of *opium*.

I must here mention colicky pains which are produced by a *hernia incarcerata:* according to allœopathy, these cases come within the province of surgery, and it cannot be denied that surgical treatment is often successful, partly by the use of external and internal remedies, and where these are unsuccessful, by an operation. But still this mode of treatment frequently fails, and the operation effects nothing from being performed too late. *Herniæ* which have been produced by external violence belong to the province of the surgeon: *ruptures* which are not produced by external causes, require dy-

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namic aid, because some morbid internal cause has given origin to them. *Inguinal herniæ* which arise from an internal cause, often find a specific remedy in *nux*, *aurum*, *the magnet*, *coccul.*, &c. A few words in regard to *strangulated hernia* in so far that as an organic cause it gives rise to colicky pains, and the relations which our remedy bears to such pains. One would suppose that it would be the same thing whether the strangulation was congenital, old, recent, or occurred in a rupture produced by external violence, as the cause which produces the pains is always the same. If this were the case, all strangulated *herniæ* must yield to the same curative method that had conquered a few cases.

Nux must then prove curative in all cases, as it has proved of such essential service in some. Still I much doubt if it deserves the name of a specific, in these cases, at least oft repeated experience must first confirm its power. I believe that *nux* is to be applied with most certainty where the rupture is of recent occurrence, and suddenly becomes strangulated, and which could have been cured by *nux* if the strangulation had not supervened. In a case of this kind, we should attempt the reduction of the hernial protrusion, by means of the taxis; if it is reduced, the pains soon mitigate, and all of the symptoms dependent upon it disappear. Should however we not be able to reduce it soon by this method, which is most frequently the case, as the constriction of the muscular fibres of the intestine, and the abdominal ring is increased by the irritation produced by the taxis and thereby a more powerful resistence is induced. We should under such circumstances, without useless attempts at reduction, adminis-

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ter *nux vom.* in the smallest dose. I do not say without reason, in the *smallest dose*; for where the sensibility of the patient is so much exalted, we should endeavour to avoid every possible exacerbation from the remedy, in order not to bring the life of the patient in still greater danger by producing spasmodic complaints. Observations coincide with mine in these cases, that soon after the administration of the remedy the pain ceased, the intestine replaced itself, even if before this had been impossible with the taxis.

W., aged thirty-six years, a stocking weaver, whose frame had been much reduced by care and disease, endeavoured to refresh himself by short sleep in the afternoon, for the remaining toils of the day, and despite his miserable nourishment, he always gained sufficient strength, although not without exertion, to enable him to pursue his labours. A long time since I had happily cured him of a chronic hepatic affection, and from that time the man enjoyed at least tolerable health. In the summer I was called to him at night, and on entering his chamber, I found him in bed wringing his hands, and exhibiting the following picture of disease:—

Early in the morning the patient had felt as well as usual, had a natural stool as generally, had eaten enough at noon, and then taken his usual *siesta*, from which, however, he was awakened by a griping, stinging pain in the right inguinal region, which after his arising continued to increase hourly, and towards evening obliged him to lie down. Notwithstanding he still hoped that nature would afford him relief, until finally the pains extended over the whole abdomen, which was painfully tense and distended; eructations of wind, vomiting of a

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greenish, bitter fluid supervened, and he was troubled with restlessness, which he could not overcome. At the same time he complained much of thirst, the pulse was small, quick, and contracted, burning heat over the whole body with cool, clammy sweat, in the face and on the extremities. By external examination of the abdomen, I found in the right inguinal region an elastic swelling which gave him much pain by pressing upon it, and gave me the idea that a hernia existed, although the patient assured me that he had never had a rupture. By more careful examination, it was evident that a hernia which had just arisen, existed.

As twelve hours had elapsed since its first appearance, and the *taxis* proving of no service, I did not longer delay the application of the proper remedy. On personal experience I could not depend, whether homœopathic remedies were applicable in such cases; I could not upon the experience of other homœopathists. I indeed would not at an earlier period have believed that such a small dose could have proved beneficial in such a case, as according to allœopathic rules, very large doses of the most violent drastics are frequently given without effect. They had already administered a few enemata of *chamomile tea* without effect, as it had scarcely been possible to give them to the patient. I laid everything aside, gave bread water as drink, and administered *nux* 24, and waited for its effect. After a quarter of an hour had elapsed, eructations and vomiting were ceased, the belly appeared less tense, and the rupture was not so painful to the touch. In about two hours the incarceration was not only overcome, but the rupture had disap-

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peared without ever recurring, as far as I have had opportunity of observing the individual since.

Nux is likewise often applicable in the catarrhal, rheumatic and gouty colic, according to the symptoms which exist.

Nux is very useful in *asthmatic complaints*, which allœopathic physicians have also observed, and therefore recommend it in *spasmodic asthma*, *oppression at the chest*, and *hooping cough*. In the works on therapeutics, we find it mentioned in *hooping cough* among the remedies of minor importance. In uncomplicated fully developed *spasms of the chest*, which depend upon disturbed irritability of the nerves of the chest in general, *nux* is not always applicable, and even those cases which depend upon causes indicating this remedy, we will not always find it sufficient, but will be obliged to use some intercurrent because the disease often assumes an entirely different character. If *nux* is the proper specific, we should continue to give it at protracted intervals, even after the disease is apparently entirely cured. *Nux* is most frequently indicated where the disease occurs in hysterical and hypochondriacal subjects: on the other hand, where there is increased local irritability of the lungs, and *bronchiæ* produced by previous inflammatory disease of these organs, it is not applicable.

In *hydrothorax* and *phthisis* at their commencement we but seldom observe true spasms of the chest, but generally merely oppression and constriction, and these merely isolated symptoms which are to be looked upon as secondary symptoms; it is impossible to find a remedy to overcome, as but transient aid can be

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afforded, unless the remedy is fully indicated by the constitutional affection. *Hydrothorax* as well as *phthisis* form, according to the pathologists, peculiar forms of disease, which demand special treatment, by which with the relief of the principal diseases, the secondary symptoms must likewise disappear. It is well known that *nux* affords relief in *asthma*, but still, where it is caused by *hydrothorax* and *phthisis*, it is entirely inapplicable, as repeated experience has taught me.

In *asthma humidum*, *nux* is not indicated, as a loose cough is merely a curative effect with this remedy.

The peculiar, true, spasm of the chest, cannot be diminished by any change of position of the body during the attack, and *nux* will prove beneficial only in those cases where the turning on the opposite side, or on the back, or sitting upright in bed, or arising from a supine position, or lying down produces an amelioration of the asthmatic suffering. It is also applicable in spasms of the chest occurring at night, and produced by anxious, distressing dreams, as we so often find in individuals labouring under affections of the liver, spleen, and portal system of a so-termed atrabilious temperament, and in hypochondriacs. It is likewise indicated where the feeling is produced as if the clothes were too tight, which produces constriction of the chest and abdomen, and is often the evidence of hæmorrhoidal congestion.

I will add here, those cases which arise per consensum during gastralgia, which frequently find a curative in *nux* if the other category of symptoms indicate it. In the kind of spasms of the chest which are accompanied by such symptoms as I have just mentioned, *nux* will generally be beneficial as a specific curative.

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In speaking of asthmatic complaints, I also mentioned *hooping cough* at the commencement, against which it had been recommended by the allœopathists; therefore a few words on this subject. *Nux* is never applicable in fully developed *looping cough*, but it is applicable in the first period, in the catarrhal. Here *nux* is sometimes a prophylactic when properly administered, and does not permit the disease to run into the *stadium convulsivum*. This is not the only remedy applicable in the catarrhal stage; there are a number of others which may be applied according to the difference in symptoms in the first period of the disease.

To check the *hooping cough* and prevent it attaining its height, where it really deserves the name—as is also frequently the case in many other diseases—occurs far more rarely under allœopathic than under homœopathic treatment, because homœopathy, unlike the other, does not await the complete development of the disease, but opposes the specific remedy to the morbid symptoms which exist, without permitting the chief disease to arise into which the existing state may indeed become converted. This is indeed the greatest aim of a rational physician, to remove the disease in its commencement, so that it shall not attain its acme. We obtain less renown by this mode of procedure, because the greater part of our fellow beings do not know how to appreciate this service, and with the best desire cannot comprehend, but the physician has his reward in his own conscience.

HYPOCHONDRIA AND HYSTERIA. Most of the morbid affections which are described in pathological works under the head of hypochondria and hysteria, although

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variously constituted, bear a greater or less degree of resemblance to the symptoms of *nux vomica*. It is therefore, recommended as an appropriate remedy in this disease, in treaties on materia medica.

The various disturbances of the nervous system, which are manifested by weakness, relaxation, painful sensations, heaviness and confusion of the head, or violent drawing pains of the head conjoined with a general morbid derangement of the system, are strikingly analogous to the effect of *nux vomica* on a healthy person. The 76th symptom in particular, bears so great a resemblance to clavus hypochondriasis, (an affection which the physicians of the old school would not willingly miss in this disease, because it is regarded as one of its characteri criteria,) that from this fact alone, we might decide on its efficacy whenever there is so great an increase of nervous irritability, as occurs in hypochondriac diseases.

We find also, in all their complex symptoms, the various deceptive and abnormal sensations in the organs of sense, the morbid perversion of sensibility in the reproductive organs, and the unnatural excitement or depression of the mental powers. More especially do we find among the symptoms induced by *nux vomica*, that general derangement of the reproductive powers, so conspicuous even in the less marked grades of hypochondria, and which may perhaps be considered as one of the most frequent causes of this disease. We find by observing the effect of *nux* on the healthy human organism, that the muscular-fibre acquires in its primary direct action, an exceeding mobility, and that the nervous system, morbidly excited, is affected to a degree approaching to

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delirium, accompanied with fear and terror. Among its primary effects, is likewise noticeable a twitching motion under the skin, on the limbs, and in the abdominal muscles, as also spasmodic affections and convulsions. By this continuous influence on the muscular-fibre, the irritability seems as it were to exhaust itself; whereby with the transition into the secondary effects of the medicine, a diminution and torpor of the nervous sensibility is affected, which is manifested as well in the vital as in the animal and mental powers.

From these observations, which are derived from experience, it is evident that *nux vomica* induces symptoms exceedingly analogous to those occurring in paroxysms of hysteria and hypochondria, which, however, in both these diseases, are greatly modified by various attending circumstances.

It remains for us to ascertain in what kinds of hypochondriasis, according to the old school, this remedy is applicable; whether in the organic, material, or idiopathic. That the first is always preceded by a morbid condition of the abdomen, is well known; but it should be remarked, that these morbid disturbances of the abdominal organs, which are sometimes induced by long sitting in a position which compresses the abdomen, with want of exercise, &c., and sometimes by indulgence in heating and exciting liquors, are generally so constituted, as we find them in the specification of symptoms ascribed to *nux vomica*, under the head of morbid affections of the abdomen. These however, generally disappear in the more confirmed stages of the disease, or are so much diminished that the patient takes but little heed of them,

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while the characteristic symptoms of hypochondriasis become more prominently conspicuous.

At the commencement of the cure, the abdominal complaints generally recur, on which account, the patient feels much sicker: but still this is merely the aggravation produced by a homœopathic remedy properly selected, and is nothing permanent. According to this, *nux* is looked upon as a specific in some kinds of *hypochondria cum materia*; but on this account, the immaterial form is not without its sphere of application, but it is not so often indicated as a curative in this form. Causal moments and characteristic symptoms, must here as in other cases lead us to the specific curative. I will here call attention to some varieties of *hypochondriasis*, in which *nux* is not at all applicable: it is those cases which arise from *onanism*, or inordinate coition, where with *china*, *staphysagria* deserves to be recommended: and in that more aggravated variety of *hypochondriasis*, which sometimes occurs in unmarried males, and where *conium* is very strongly indicated. Both varieties should be placed with immaterial *hypochondriasis*, and require an entirely different treatment, as I have repeatedly confirmed by my own experience.

Epilepsy, also, belongs to the category of chronic nervous affections, and should be specified in treatises on materia medica as one of those diseases in which *nux vomica* proves highly efficacious. It is now more than thirty years since Hahnemann, in an essay in Hufeland's Journal, entitled "An Attempt to Demonstrate a New Principle, for the Discovery of the Curative Powers of Remedial Agents," says, in speaking of *nux vomica*, "The tendency of this remedy in its direct and primary effects

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to induce twitching and contractility of the muscular fibre, and subsequently greatly to diminish this contractility, bears so great an analogy to the symptoms of epilepsy that we might be led to suspect its efficacy in this disease, if experience had not already demonstrated it." And at that time, it should be remembered, Hahnemann was far from having attained the firm grasp which he now holds on that great and important truth which he first discovered and announced to the world, and which he has now fully demonstrated by a complete series of experiments on the healthy human organism. And had we previously only suspected that *nux* might be efficacious in removing epileptic diseases, our suspicions could not but be exchanged for certainty, after attentively perusing the abundant category of symptoms induced by this medicine, and comparing the characteristic criteria of epilepsy with those therein resembling them.

In this disease much, unquestionably, depends upon the exciting cause, and although the symptoms which are manifested in *stad prodromorum et convulsivum* are often strikingly analogous to those of *nux vomica*, it can here in only a few cases be regarded as a specific, although it may frequently be exhibited as a suitable intercurrent.

With regard to temperaments I would remark that it is chiefly applicable in cases where the person attacked with epilepsy is of a choleric, phlegmatic temperament, and of a malicious, ill-natured, irascible disposition. It is less successful when the constitution is nervous and delicate.

I have never found *nux vomica* efficacious in attacks of epilepsy which occur during childhood; neither is it applicable in those which owe their origin to violent and

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impetuous passions, such as terror, rage, vexation, grief, joy, or fear. In such cases *opium*, *ignatia*, *chamomilla*, *coffee*, &c., may be exhibited according to the nature of the passion occasioning the disease.

When febrile affections, inflammation of the nervous organs, or acute exanthemata, are the exciting cause of epilepsy, *nux* is never to be exhibited unless indicated by all the existing symptoms, or at least all which are important and characteristic.

After a loss of blood or fluids, the last of which may be occasioned by extravagant love, long continued diarrhœa, &c., which greatly aggravate the sensitiveness of the nervous system, and are followed by attacks of epilepsy, *nux vomica* may not be considered as an improper remedy. In these cases, however, the system must previously be restored as nearly as possible to the normal condition, by the exhibition of the proper specific, by which treatment alone the disease is often overcome.

When epilepsy is occasioned by the immoderate use of spirituous liquors, *nux vomica* often proves curative. As this remedy is highly efficacious in hysterical diseases, it is evident that it must also be available when aggravated cases of hysteria are followed by epileptic attacks.

It is likewise advantageous in cases of epilepsy, arising from gout and rheumatism, and in those which are occasioned by crudities and acidities in the *primæ viæ*, worms in the alimentary canal, &c., and consequently in epilepsy arising from material causes. This disease is one of the most difficult which the physician can be called upon to treat, and one in which he can rarely promise himself a favorable result, especially when the paroxysms recur at remote intervals. The patient, al-

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though he would willingly be freed from his malady, has seldom resolution to subject himself, for so long a period, to the requisite dietetic regimen. During the intervals of the paroxysms, when he often cannot perceive the slightest trace of the disease, he flatters himself that he shall not materially interfere with the action of the remedy, if now and then he infringes on the prescribed regimen; and, considering his transgression of no importance, he neglects to mention it to his physician. How then can the practitioner rely upon the proper effect of his medicine? Another cause of his unfrequent success is, that it is necessary to await the effect of a given remedy, until a second attack of the disease, in order that we may ascertain what has been its prejudicial or beneficial influence upon the malady, and oppose to the then existing symptoms a fitting remedy; by which the treatment is necessarily prolonged. A third cause of failure is, that when the paroxysms recur less frequently than before the treatment, the physician concluding that he has chosen the proper specific, continues to administer at increasing intervals, small and constantly diminishing doses of the same remedy, until the last traces of the disease are removed. While the patient, unwilling to wait until he receives assurance of a complete cure, believes himself restored before the disposition to disease is entirely overcome. All these obstacles combined, make it sufficiently evident why we can so seldom congratulate ourselves on a successful treatment of this malady. Only a few cases of epilepsy can be cured by a single dose of a single remedy; among these are such as have not been of long continuance, and such as owe their origin to transient affections of the mind. These are

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often successfully treated; while in those which have been of long standing, requiring repeated doses of the same remedy, or, perhaps, a variety of remedies, the result is usually far less favorable, either on account of some imprudence or irregularity, with regard to diet on the part of the patient, or on the part of the physician, to a too powerful dose, or a too frequent exhibition of a single remedy, or a too frequent exchange of remedies, before the recurrence of a new paroxysm.

Headache is very generally a concomitant of various diseases, and is rarely absent in morbid affections of the abdomen. As such, although like every other symptom worthy of attention, it is not in itself of sufficient importance, to determine the physician in his choice of a remedy. As a sympathetic affection, it yields in such cases with the primary disease to the remedy, answering to its collective phenomena. Sometimes it appears as an idiopathic malady, when of course it demands a peculiar treatment. We may consider it as a primary affection, and in order to give it a pathological name, call it *cephalalgia idiopathica*. In this disease, which is becoming every day more frequent, and often amounts even to phrenzy, the allœopathic treatment is unquestionably far more rational than in the preceding, and is not unfrequently successful. Yet it cannot be denied, that these affections are often only partially cured or temporarily alleviated. The cause of this is obvious; physicians in general have not, like the homœopathist, a profound conviction of the prejudicial effects of *coffee* on the human organism, and therefore cannot persuade themselves to banish this article of luxury from the dietetic regimen

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of their patients, even when treating diseases which owe their origin to its use.

Headache arising from the inordinate use of *coffee*, is generally attended with the following symptoms. The patient complains of a violent drawing rending pain on one side of the head, accompanied with a sensation as if a nail were driven into the parietal bone. This affection is for the most part induced by a given cause, as vexation, overloading of the stomach, taking cold, &c. The attack is generally sudden, and occurs at all hours of the day.

The patient either complains of a dull oppressive pain in the temples conjoined with heaviness, which extends towards the back of the head; or the brain seems too full and feels as if it were being riven asunder. Sometimes on first awakening he experiences a general tension of the brain, which constantly increases and ends in a pressing rending pain. These two last may be designated as cases of obstinate and confirmed cephalalgia. The above mentioned symptoms, are generally conjoined with a great determination of blood to the head, and with a flushed and heated countenance. I have also noticed a species of nervous semi-lateral headache, which differs entirely from the megrim already described. It occurs only among confirmed *coffee* drinkers, and apparently without any cause.

In all the kinds of headache here specified, it is impossible for the physician to treat the disease successfully, unless he positively forbids the use of *coffee*, even in cases where he exhibits it as the appropriate remedy. It is here that *nux* is often the specific homœopathic medicament, for which no substitute can be found: I say

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often, for it does not always prove curative in diseases induced by the inordinate use of *coffee*, nor is it the only antidote to its prejudicial effects on the human organism, which may also frequently be removed by *ignatia* or *chamomilla*.

In the first mentioned variety of headache, we may with more propriety, exhibit at once a powerful dose of the appropriate remedy, proportioned however, to the violence of the disease, than in nervous headache, where by the exhibition of even the smallest dose, the homœopathic aggravation, conjoined with a great increase of irritability in the central organs, becomes vividly prominent, and is more or less powerfully manifested, according to the size of the dose. If the duration of the headache is diminished by *nux vomica*, while its character remains unchanged, we may administer during the intervals of the malady, a second but smaller dose of the same remedy, and continue to do so, until the affection is entirely overcome. But if, after a time, traces of the disease reappear, (which not unfrequently occurs in chronic affections of long standing, which seem to have become intimately united as it were with the human organism,) we must exhibit another dose of the same remedy, and continue to do so at long intervals, until the last traces of the disease have disappeared. The physician ought not, even then, to congratulate himself on having effected a complete cure, as the disease without medicine often reaches even in a short time the same height to which it had formerly attained.

Besides the headache induced by *coffee*, and for which, *nux* may be considered a specific, we may mention also that which arises from *congestion to the head*, in cou-

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sequence of a too free indulgence in spirituous liquors or over-exertion of the mental powers.*

When headache occurs as a prominent symptom of other diseases, we are sometimes under the necessity of exhibiting a remedy adapted to this isolated morbid affection; and we often find by a more careful comparison of the morbid and medicinal symptoms, that the remedy adapted to headache, answers also to the collective phenomena of the disease; but it can only happen when the medicine selected is found available against some prominent and characteristic symptom: and this is the index which should determine an incipient homœopathist in the choice of a remedy against some symptom particularly afflicting to the patient, if he would not be disappointed in his own expectations, and appear in the eyes of other practitioners, as a prejudiced symptomatologist.

We likewise find this remedy indicated in the kind of headache attending hysterical, catharrhal and gouty diseases, and with this symptom a great proportion of these affections generally disappear. It must obviously here also be chosen as answering to the collective symptoms of the disease. It is also adapted to headache arising from impurities, worms, and so called stoppages in the viscera.

It is unnecessary for me to enlarge on its efficacy in some kinds of vertigo, which are so characteristically described at the commencement of the category of symptoms induced by *nux*, I will only observe that it is especial-

* There is a peculiar headache, occurring chiefly in persons who tax their mental powers too severely, which is manifested by a severe pressing, stupefying pain in the forehead and vertex; it is increased by every effort of mind, by reading or writing. I have given *nux* fruitlessly, but have soon cured the disease with *sabadilla*.—*Translator*.

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ly applicable in those arising from the use of spirituous liquors.

Syncope. In frequent attacks of fainting, which occur sometimes at night, sometimes in the evening or after dinner, and which occasionally take place in the open air, *nux* is often highly efficacious, as is proved by symptoms 937 to 941, and 952 to 955, and as I have also often verified by actual experiment. Faintings arising from congestion to the breast and head, such as sometimes occur during pregnancy, are likewise not unfrequently removed by it. In those which are accompanied by violent attacks of pain, as for instance by *gastralgia*, thoracic spasm, cholic, &c., *nux* should only be exhibited when it answers to all the existing morbid states.

Delirium tremens. It cannot be denied that the allœopathists are frequently successful in the treatment of this disease, which has been often described, and is now one of very frequent occurrence; and even the homœopathist would not here question the rationality of their practice, if they did not deluge the patient with such enormous doses of a narcotic remedy, although one which is undoubtedly a specific in this malady.

Delirium tremens may be regarded as a confirmed disease, since it invariably proceeds from one and the same cause; and as *nux vomica* is here in my opinion an indispensable homœopathic remedy, I will devote a few remarks to the proper mode of applying it, omitting for the present, to enter into a description of its pathology, which may be found in various medical works.

The treatment commences according to allœopathic principles, with the exhibition of some laxative medicine, as constipation generally attends the first stages of the

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disease. *Opium*, as the proper specific, is then given partly in substance from a half to a whole grain, and partly in the tincture in yet larger doses. Some physicians combine opium with calomel, but this combination is objectionable, since a compound arises from it, with whose effects we are totally unacquainted. *Opium*, it is well known, is antidotal to a mercurial preparation; we cannot therefore, decide how much is necessary to remove the disease, and how much to antidote the effects of the calomel.

There may arise, moreover, from the admixture of these two medical agents, another and very different substance, of whose effects we are ignorant.

Homœopathy throws much light on this subject, concerning which so little has hitherto been known, and had we gained from it no more than a knowledge of the antidotal power of medical agents, the benefit to science would still have been invaluable. The allœopathists, however, have not yet profited by this discovery, for we not frequently find *opium* and *camphor*, *iron* and *china*, *opium* and a mercurial preparation, *valerian* and *camphor*, combined in one receipt; while at the same time the use of *coffee* is allowed.

And often we find the same combination of remedies externally applied in embrocations, liniments, washes, &c.

The allœopathists also exhibit opium in this disease, which is here homœopathically applicable, because in its primary effects upon the healthy human organism, it likewise increases the irritability and activity of the voluntary muscles, while it diminishes that of the involuntary, whence the slowness of pulse, constipation, &c.

In its secondary effects, on the contrary, it exalts the

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fancy and the courage, and at the same time benumbs the general sensibility, and the consciousness. It manifests likewise, in its pathogenetical effects, so great a resemblance to the symptoms of this disease, that not a doubt can remain upon the subject. It is decidedly a specific in this malady, when it has reached the second stage. This is not the case, however, with the primary stage. When the disease is genuine, unadulterated and without complication, its symptoms, especially those of the mind, are so strikingly analogous to those of *nux vomica*, that we may decide almost with certainty on its efficacy in this malady; yet on account of the great degree of nervous insensibility and depression, it is necessary to administer a much larger dose than is ever given in other diseases either acute or chronic. A drop from the 6th to the 12th dilution, according to the constitution of the patient, might I think be given, where there is so great a degree of nervous depression, without danger of rendering the homœopathic aggravation too permanent: but if absolutely no effect is produced, and the disease constantly verges towards the second stage, or if the physician is first applied to, after the disease has already reached this stage, *opium* must inevitably be exhibited, although not in such large doses. A drop of the second or third dilution would probably suffice. But if one dose is not sufficient to remove the disease, then after from four to six hours, a second, or perhaps a third, may become necessary. We must, however, await the first effects of this remedy, before a second dose is administered.

The large doses of the allœopathists are objectionable, on account of the unnecessary aggravation of the disease thereby induced, which aggravation, of course, in from one to two hours after the first dose calls for the exhibition

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of another, and perhaps a still larger one of the same remedy; this induces obstupefaction, in which truly the disease terminates on account of its short duration, leaving behind it however, a relaxation, from which the organism does not easily recover itself; while the constipation and headache remaining after a homœopathic treatment of this disease, may be completely removed by a few doses of *nux*, and by abstaining from spirituous liquors.

I have often noticed in persons who have indulged to excess in the use of stimulating liquors, and in men of letters, who have overtasked the mind by continual study, a depression of the mental powers, and a weakness of memory, which likewise find their specific in this remedy, with which however another may sometimes become necessary as an intercurrent. When these symptoms arise from other causes, other remedies may of course be required.

ACUTE RHEUMATISM. In a few kinds of acute rheumatism, *nux* is applicable in the very commencement of the disease, and the cure is effected by it in the course of a few days; but in a great proportion of these affections, it must be preceded by another remedy; this is especially necessary when the disease is accompanied by synochal fever, in which case, as I have already stated, *nux* is never applicable. In a great proportion of those cases of acute rheumatism, which have fallen under my observation, I have found them so constituted with acute inflammatory fever, that even the smallest dose of *aconite*, administered to the most robust patient, produces such a modification of the symptoms, that *nux vomica* is then plainly indicated, and the disease succombs to it in a few days. I will give one example of the kind, because it was complicated with other morbid states, to which *nux* seem-

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ed applicable in the commencement; yet undoubtedly so sudden and fortunate a cure, could not have been effected without a previous exhibition of *aconite*.

A man in his fortieth year, and of a somewhat phlegmatic yet choleric temperament, addicted himself to a diet so luxurious and stimulating, that a plethora was necessarily induced, which manifested itself in various morbid affections. He was afflicted with blind hæmorrhoids, and with the accompanying pains of the loins. His sleep was subject to many disturbances, one of the most annoying of which was a kind of night-mare, during which he could not move a limb, nor utter a sound. He called it *blood-stoppage*. He was frequently obliged to lie down during the day on account of vertigo. His stomach could bear but little food, and that little excited an uneasy sense of fulness which could only be alleviated by lying down. Palpitation of the heart with anxiety was not an unfrequent symptom. He could not be persuaded to have recourse to medicine, and it was not without great difficulty that I prevailed upon him by the most convincing arguments to return to a more natural diet. Nature sustained the discontinuance of a great portion of these stimulants, but not without inflicting her penalties. Enervated by remaining long in the house, he went out in a somewhat raw air, and on returning home his complaints had so much increased that he sent for me in much alarm, and while labouring under violent palpitation of the heart, gave me the following account. "I came home about eight o'clock in the evening, and was almost immediately attacked with an ague fit, accompanied with rending pains in the limbs, and chattering of the teeth. The

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chill lasted for about half an hour, when it gave place to a burning heat, which was soon succeeded by a moisture on the skin, followed by a profuse perspiration; at the same time the violent pains in my limbs became more intense. I hoped to find some relief from a cup of coffee, but this only increased my pains to agony, now also rendered more intolerable by violent palpitation of the heart." He was still in this state when I arrived. He complained moreover of vertigo and oppressive heaviness in the whole head; at the same time he was obliged to lie perfectly still, because by the slightest motion, these symptoms were painfully augmented. In the left leg the pains were accompanied with a feeling of numbness, and sometimes of spasm. Deep in the abdomen he experienced an oppressive weight, accompanied by a throbbing sensation, synchronous with the stroke of the pulse. His tongue was covered with mucus, he had but little appetite, and complained of a bitter mucous taste in the mouth. His lips were dry, and he frequently asked for drink. The pulse was full and rapid, the urine of a dark red, and the patient had had no alvine evacuation during the day. It was then ten o'clock, A.M. I immediately gave him one drop of the 27th dilution of *aconite*, and found at my early morning visit the fever much diminished, the palpitation and anxiety entirely gone, and the vertigo, headache, and pains in the limbs greatly moderated. In the evening no further improvement had taken place, stool had not supervened, and the urine deposited a sedimentum lateritium. The painful throbbing weight in the abdomen had increased. I now administered another drop of the 27th dilution, which procured a tranquil sleep of five hours,

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and in two days effected an entire cure. Yet I ought to mention, that on the second day, a red rash appeared on the back of the patient, which according to the opinion of writers, never occurs in diseases where the fever assumes a synochal character. This case, however, seems to indicate the contrary.

The palpitations of the heart, which in this instance occasionally recurred, I entirely removed by two doses of *aconite* and *sulphur*. The existing weakness of the stomach, conjoined with a sense of fulness in the abdomen, yielded entirely to *nux*. The man is now in a better state of health than he remembers to have been for the last eight years.

The rheumatic pains which appear now here and now there, and which when they leave one limb are soon felt in another, attended with redness and swelling of the joints, belong more properly to *arthritis vago*, and yield most readily to *pulsatilla*.

CHRONIC RHEUMATISM. *Nux* is no less applicable to the drawing, tensive pains common to some kinds of *chronic rheumatism*, and especially when they are conjoined with a feeling of weakness and numbness in the part affected, as also when they are accompanied by spasmodic affections, twitching of particular muscular parts, or convulsive movements of single limbs. Rheumatic pains of the muscles of the throat and nape of the neck, attended with swellings, generally succumb to *belladonna*.

GOUT. Although the allœopathists consider *gout* as nearly related to *rheumatism*, it is an entirely distinct disease, and one which in my opinion, bears not the slightest resemblance to it. The fever attending *rheu-*

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matism is for the most part synochal, while that of *gout* generally assumes the character of synochus. The pains of *rheumatism* are from the first acute and urgent, and generally diminish with the diminution of the fever, while those of *gout* increase gradually, and often remain long after the cessation of the fever. Almost all parts of the body are liable to rheumatic pains, while *gout* in the strict sense of the word is the proper appellation for those rending and painful sensations only which occur in the *joints of the limbs*. True gouty affections, moreover, occur only in persons who lead a luxurious and sedentary life; *rheumatism* on the contrary is induced by changes of weather, taking cold, and other disturbing influences. From this we may understand why it is that *gout* is for the most part preceded by a *stadium prodromorum* depending generally upon some derangement of the abdominal organs, with which the topical affection becomes only subsequently conjoined. In this stage, which is designated by medical writers as imperfect atonic gout, the cure is more speedily effected than when the disease has already reached its peculiar stand point. Here is the most favourable sphere of action for *nux vomica*, as has also been stated by therapeutic writers in describing the symptoms peculiar to this stage. It is not however applicable in all cases of this kind, but may sometimes find a substitute in *bryonia*, *pulsatilla*, *ignatia*, and sometimes in *cham.*, *bellad.*, *china*, or other remedies. If the topical affection becomes more prominent, *nux* will seldom effect a cure, even in those cases to which it is adapted, without the aid of some very different remedy, as for instance, *bry-*

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onia, rhus., puls., cocc., dulcam., sulphur., con. macul., aurum, bellad., spongii, mercur., stannum, &c.

When the disease has been of longer continuance, it is well known that other symptoms are often elicited; induced partly by the derangement of the reproductive system, and partly by the topical affection. Their supervention prolongs the disease, and renders the treatment more tedious. A transference of the disease to other organs, is also not unfrequent, producing affections which are improperly called arthritic, and to which some of the modes of treatment adapted to *gout*, are allœopathically applied. I will here specify some of those which, when evincing the proper symptoms, may be cured by *nux vomica*, viz.: a kind of *arthritic ophthalmia* which I have already described in treating of inflammations of the eye; the *gastritis, hepatitis* and *nephrites*, occasioned by *arthritic metastisis*, which are sometimes so constituted, that *nux* may be given with advantage; a fact which may easily be determined from the existing symptoms of the disease. The constant *semi-lateral headache*, which sometimes remains after *encephalitis arthritica*, (a disease which may perhaps be cured by *belladonna, arnica*, &c.,) yields, as I have often noticed to *nux vomica*. The *gouty headache*, likewise, which occurs without preceding *encephalitis*, is often permanently cured by it. Symptoms of *deranged digestion, habitual constipation, gastralgia* and *chronic vomiting*, often so plainly indicate *nux*, that the physician cannot hesitate to make choice of it. I have sometimes, however, removed this kind of constipation with *bryonia* and *staphys*.

Arthritic gastralgia, especially when it announces itself by stinging pains, nausea and mucous vomiting, I have

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cured by *puls.*, *bryonia.* The chronic vomiting, which is a concomitant of *gout*, succumbs at times to *tart. emet.* and *arsenic.* A very painful kind of *knee-gout* which sometimes occurs after a *tertian intermittent fever*, attended with the development of *gouty nodes*, conjoined with various painful sensations in the other joints, a feeling of paralysis in the part affected, light attacks of *intermitting fever*, *constipation* and *vomiting*, I have completely cured by a single dose of the 18th dilution of *nux vomica.*

TOOTHACHE. The kinds of *toothache* in which, after long observation, I have found this remedy most available, are generally characterised as follows:—

1st. The *rheumatic toothache* which may occur either in sound or carious teeth, and generally commences with a simple drawing sensation in one or two teeth, and subsequently extends to all the teeth on the same side, becoming more painful, and accompanied by a fine sharp stinging sensation.

If the pain attacks the teeth of the lower jaw, the glands are generally more or less affected, and often become so extremely sensitive, that the slightest motion of the head to the opposite side, produces severe pain, and the patient cannot even swallow without great difficulty. If the teeth of the upper jaw are affected, the pain generally extends towards the temples and around the orbit of the eye.

In this kind of *toothache*, I should prefer to exhibit the lowest dilution of *nux*, and even when so applied, it often induces a great aggravation of the pain for about fifteen minutes, especially in *toothache* of the under jaw, conjoined with swelling of the glands. During this ag-

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gravation it excites such a flow of saliva, that the patient is obliged to expectorate continually.

2d. The *rending toothache*, which also frequently occurs in patients who are subject to *gout*. It extends often from some hollow tooth to the entire facial-bone of the side affected, and is much alleviated by warmth; while it is aggravated by cold air, and especially by cold drinks, which excite pain, as soon as they come in contact with the hollow tooth.

3d. The kind of *toothache* which is quite moderate while the patient is at rest; but which is greatly increased by mental exertion.

4th. That which is induced by the use of *coffee*, by which the front teeth are often rendered carious; this is not unfrequently so constituted that it may be cured by a small dose of *chamomilla*, or so modified by it, that *nux* may be given with advantage.

5th. In those cases which are occasioned by the use of spirituous liquors, and which are attended with cerebral congestion.

APOPLEXY. In true attacks of *apoplexy*, *nux* is seldom immediately applicable; but it is often indicated when they are announced by premonitory symptoms, or in the morbid affections remaining after such attacks. It is well known that *apoplexia sanguinea* is more frequently preceded by premonitions, than *apoplexia nervosa*, and that the first is generally announced by symptoms of congestion to the head and brain; as such, we may notice vertigo, obstupefaction, heaviness of the head, throbbing of the vessels of the head, oppressive headache, sparks and flames before the eyes, sounds and noises in the ears, inertia and torpor of the organs of sense, incapacity for

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mental application, stricture of the breast, palpitation of the heart,—deep sleep with anxious, unquiet dreams, nausea, disposition to vomit, actual vomiting and constipation. All these symptoms, however, may exist without presaging *apoplexy*. Yet, nevertheless, if we find on a comparison of the morbid and medicinal symptoms a greater or less degree of resemblance between them; if in addition, we find as exciting causes a corpulent robust compact frame, a fiery sanguineous choleric temperament, (both good indications for the exhibition of *nux vomica*,) by which congestion, and consequently pressure upon the brain, are induced by constant and severe mental application, inordinate use of exciting and spirituous liquors, suppression of hæmorrhoids and catamenia, to which *nux* is specifically opposed, it then becomes evident that this remedy must be highly efficacious in the stadium prodromorum.

In the attack itself, according to the existing symptoms, either *aconite*, *ipecac.*, *coffea*, *camph.*, *opium*, *arnica*, *belladonna*, &c., are indicated. The constipation remaining after apoplectic attacks, may be in part removed by *nux vomica*, and again with other remedies as a suitable intercurrent. The remaining partial paralytic affections, form, according to the opinion of writers, a peculiar class of diseases, and rank with them under the collective name of paralyses.

In PARALYTIC STATES I formerly often found *nux* productive of a decided although (as it appeared to me) a temporary improvement. I was therefore persuaded that it could be of little use in diseases of this nature, and I was still more confirmed in this opinion, from the fact that all nervous exaltations of the organs of sense, are to

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be found among the primary effects of this medicine. Since that time, my views on this subject have changed, and more recent experiments, which have convinced me of my error, have shown me that I must frequently have made an improper application of this remedy, even when the symptoms seemed to indicate it.

Partial paralyses of the superior and inferior extremities in which the parts seem relaxed and heavy as lead, I have sometimes cured by *nux* alone.

In those paralytic states to which this remedy is adapted, I have found it decidedly more efficacious in affections of the lower extremities, than of the upper. The former I have generally found conjoined with a morbid condition of the assimilative system, which is often absent in the latter, or is at least far less conspicuous. If the disordered reproductive organs are restored to an equilibrium with the other bodily functions through the application of this medicine, the paralysis generally at the same time disappears.

A woman who had suffered from a severe and dangerous inflammation of the lungs, occasioned by grief, anxiety and vexation, still suffered after her recovery, from a weakness in one of her feet, which gradually grew worse. While seated, she complained only of coldness in the feet and leg, which no external warmth could affect, conjoined with great weakness of the part. She could not rise without assistance, even with the aid of a prop for the arm; and she could only stand with the aid of some support to lean upon. She was utterly incapable of walking, the lame foot bending under her whenever she attempted to move.

Her appetite was good, and her sleep tolerably tranquil

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before midnight, after that time it was restless, starting and attended with troubled dreams. Two doses of *nux*, from the 27th to the 30th dilution, completely cured this malady in fourteen days.

From what I have said of *hypochondriasis*, it is clear that *nux* is likewise applicable in *hysteria*, and deserves attention more particularly in some forms of material *hysteria*. *Hysteria* is frequently dependent upon an excited state of the sexual system, which sometimes is induced by pernicious disease of the sexual organs, and again by general weakness of the nervous system, and exaltation thereof by excitement of the imagination, from which the exalted sensibility of the procreative sphere, frequently terminates in *hysteria libidinosa*, and *nymphomania*, which requires to effect a cure, according to the exciting cause, and the existing morbid phenomena, sometimes *platina*, *bellad.*, *thuja*, or *hyosciam.*

Convulsive twitchings of particular muscular parts, convulsions of particular members, spasmodic attacks of the whole body, drawing it laterally and backwards, find a curative, provided the other symptoms correspond with it, in this remedy. In tonic spasms of all parts of the body, accompanied with rattling in the throat, disturbed sleep, it proved very effective, in the case of a boy of seven years of age. Almost specific is *nux* in the frequently so painful cramps of the calves and toes of plethoric individuals, or of well-fed old people, often obliging them during walking to stand still, but mostly appearing at night, and driving the patient out of bed. Often the daily use of coffee produced its reappearance, which however was permanently overcome by avoiding coffee.

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However apparently free from danger, frequently a cough makes its appearance, and however little notice physicians sometimes take of it, yet it sometimes defies most obstinately all remedies, and gives occasion by its protracted continuance, to many serious and dangerous sequelæ. A chief criterion for the exhibition of *nux* is a *dry cough*; expectoration is a contra-indication, as a loose cough can but appear in consequence of the application of *nux*. Generally this dry cough is produced by a tickling or raw sensation below the larynx, continues through the whole day, slightly hacking increases in violence towards evening, and does not abate before several hours, appearing however but seldom during the night; sometimes however it is accompanied with a kind of laryngeal cramp, and excites vomiting at the height of the attack. In this latter case, *nux* is not always the remedy, and we must select among *puls.*, *ipecac.*, *bellad.*, etc. Another kind of cough for *nux* is constituted so that it is produced by tickling and rawness in the air-tubes, conducts itself very similar to the cough described above, but continues for a longer time in the morning, and now and then a very little phlegm is expectorated by frequent coughing.

Not less frequent is that kind which is produced by a kind of bronchial catarrh, accompanied by slight hoarseness; the cough succeeds only by some effort to loosen a small part of the mucus, leaving behind a slight burning sensation, is rough and hollow during the night, but short and panting in the day time; if the hoarseness is so bad as to prevent the patient speaking a loud word, *puls.*, *mangan.*, *sulph.*, *mercur.*, will suit oftener than *nux*. Particularly characteristic are the two fol-

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lowing states: cough excited by tickling, and producing by the concussion a headache as if the head would burst; and that cough which is excited by a constant irritation in the larynx, produces a bruised like pain all over the abdomen, so as to make the latter sore to the slightest touch, indicating a sub-inflammatory state of the bowels.

A young man of twenty-one years of age was regularly every spring and fall afflicted with a catarrh, of which he did not take much notice; but at one time it was attended with a pleuritic affection, the treatment of which he thought he could trust but to allœopathy.

The cough which continued after the pleurisy had been removed, did not appear to be of any importance to the allœopathist. The patient was convalescent, and open air was to be the final and complete restorer. But this time the constitution of the patient would not submit to this course! the cough increased; was moderate during the day, but considerable in the evening; at three o'clock in the morning he awoke with a tickling in the larynx, each cough was attended with so great a degree of soreness over the whole abdomen, that he thought it must burst. After rising the cough diminished, as did the soreness some, yet every step caused the sensation as if all was torn and beaten in his abdomen.

A dose of *nux*, at nine o'clock in the morning, removed, after moderate exercise before dinner, all morbid symptoms without ever returning.

Among the different kinds of coughs described above, there are states such as sometimes are met with in incipient *phthisis pulmonalis, tuberculosa* and *trachealis*,

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and which moreover are characterised by the circumstance that the kinds first named require a high pillow or lying on one side to avoid all inducements for its appearance. It is evident from this that *nux* also is useful in *pulmonary phthisis* of this description, as a curative as well as an intermediate remedy, as experience has taught me.

The ear symptoms of *nux*, as ringing and roaring in the ear, correspond to no particular and distinct morbid state, but appear merely symptomatic; it will therefore not be of much service in these affections, where they depend on a partly increased sensitiveness of the oral organs, and form primary affections; under these circumstances, animal magnetism and other remedies effect more. If they are accompanied with congestions towards the head, *nux* will effect a cure provided it is the curative remedy for the congestion itself; the same is the case where they are attended with hysteric attacks, or appear as precursors of an apoplectic state. If it is attended with *otitis*, *puls.* is the specific, provided there is no contra-indication.

One of the later numbers of Hufeland's Journal contains among his aphorisms the following reproving words: "That physicians in examining patients frequently lay too little importance on dreams," which remark by no means appertains to the homœopathist. To him nothing of what the patient relates appears unimportant enough to pass unnoticed, even should it at first seem to be of no value. What allœopathic physician would consider the following symptoms of any considerable importance? "Sourish and acid taste in the morning after drinking milk," or "the symptoms

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present increased by meditation;" or "cough, but slight in the day time, worst early in the morning, waking him up from sleep;" or "the cramp-like pain in the stomach is present only in the morning at three or four o'clock, prevents further sleeping, and diminishes gradually after rising," etc. Just these are characteristic symptoms, and induce the homœopathic physician to give *nux*. And yet these appear to be at the first blush unimportant symptoms! How much more ought he take into consideration *sleep* and *dreams?* Does not an abnormal sleep always indicate an abnormal relation between the vegetative and nervous sensorial action? For instance, great congestion towards the brain, produced by intoxicating, narcotic drinks, is always accompanied with a drowsy, comatose sleep, which by frequent repetition of these indulgences, even after the removal of the congestion, leaves behind such a morbid excitement of the sensorium, and becomes, so to say, a habit of the body, that even after entirely avoiding all spirituous potions, nature alone has not the power to remove this morbid sleep.

We may account for this in the following way: the congestion towards the head is but a secondary affection, depending upon congestion in the abdomen, and the removal of the first is not always simultaneously followed by the disappearance of the latter, which by the pressure on the ganglionic system, keep up those morbid symptoms in regard to sleep and dreaming.

The morbid sleep indicating this remedy in disease, is so peculiar that we will not readily meet with it so marked in any other remedy. It is characteristic if the patient cannot refrain from sleeping before his usual

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time of retiring: this occurs in catarrhal, gastric complaints, &c. Farther, where the patient tosses about restless at night, is awakened by palpitations, anxiety, frightful dreams, which prevent his sleeping again for a long time. We find this morbid nocturnal sleep very frequently in individuals who drink too much, by which many abdominal disorders are produced: further in individuals labouring under affections of the liver, spleen, or portal system; likewise during pregnancy, and at the climacteric period, where abdominal torpor exists; in hæmorrhoidal congestion and general plethora; in coffee drinkers, &c. Finally, if the night has been restless, where a light slumber has been interrupted by anxious frightful dreams, and where towards morning a stupefying sleep with unpleasant dreams occurs, from which it is scarcely possible to awake the patient, and after awaking he feels debilitated but not refreshed; it is the frequent concomitant of painful diseases, which becomes exacerbated in the evening, and remits in the morning. It is but seldom that such a morbid sleep appears as an isolated symptom, it is generally conjoined with other affections, in which according to circumstances and temperament we can decide whether *nux*, *puls.*, *mercur.*, or any other remedy is indicated.

In conclusion, a few words in regard to *melancholia*, a state which can never be properly understood or treated by a homœopathist who directs his attention solely to the morbid condition of the mind, and not at the same time to the disturbed functions of the organism. In the treatment of this disease, we must pay attention to discover whether it be a primary or secondary affection. In what degree *nux* can prove beneficial and

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really is so, *will* be made clearer and more evident by a knowledge of the exciting cause from which it originated.

This remedy is most generally adapted where the melancholy is produced by disturbances in the abdominal organs. The symptoms of disturbed reproduction remain unaltered even where there is a more vivid predominance of the mental affection, owing to the antagonism of the brain and ganglionic system, and the debilitated state of the latter produces a still greater inertia and disturbance in the functions of the abdominal organs, than was the case at the beginning of the disease.

The remedy to be applied must likewise in its primary effects produce a similar torpor of the abdominal organs and an exalted irritability and activity of the sensorium, and these indeed we find quite prominent among the symptoms of *nux*. Some kinds of melancholy produced by constant mental labour, a sedentary life, are removed by it. In those cases produced by onanism it is a good intercurrent, in conjunction with the specific for the debility from onanism. . Whether it is exactly the proper remedy in cases of melancholy depending upon liver and spleen disease, must be determined by the individuality of the case, as it is often indicated in these diseases. In cases produced by stimulating drinks, it is often the specific; and this serves to strengthen my opinion that it must prove serviceable in *delirium tremens*, as in this disease a mental state like melancholy exists, which at the commencement appears merely as a form of hypochondriasis. If the melancholy occurs in a quick, choleric temperament, in atrabilious constitution, *nux* under the conditions specified is still better indicated.

FINIS.

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